



Courtesy Westfield Public Schools

NATIONAL FINALISTS... Pictured, from left, Edison Intermediate School Principal Matthew Bolton, Ed.D., congratulates eighth grader Gabriela Gil and seventh graders Sofia Gil, Hannah Hollosi and Anusha Iyer, who are finalists in a national STEM competition.

EIS Students Are Finalists in Ntl. STEM Competition

WESTFIELD -- Four Edison Intermediate School (EIS) students are finalists in a national competition for middle school girls. The stated mission of the 2019 ProjectCSGIRLS Competition is to "nurture an interest in science, math, and technology during the critical middle school period to help them better see themselves as the future leaders of tomorrow."

Finalist and seventh grader Anusha Iyer created the Aquacheck, a water conservation project that tracks the amount of water used in a household. The finalist team of seventh graders Hannah Hollosi, Sofia Gil, and eighth grader Gabriela Gil designed an app and accompanying video with a unique

solution for the disposal of wildlife killed by motorists that would benefit zoos and wildlife sanctuaries and lessen the risk of spreading disease.

The finalists have been invited to attend a gala in early June in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area that will feature guest speakers, hands-on workshops, technology talks and a formal awards ceremony.

Area Students Graduate from the Coll. of the Holy Cross

AREA -- The following local students received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of the Holy Cross at its 173rd commencement on May 24.

Louis Gabriel Cappucci, of Cranford, received a Bachelor of Arts degree. Charles Joseph Richard, of Mountainside, received a Bachelor of Arts degree. John William Skinner, of Mountainside, received a Bachelor of Arts degree. Shannon Taylor Burns, of Scotch Plains, received a Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude. Caroline Grace Knapp, of Westfield, received a Bachelor of Arts degree, cum laude. Amanda Claire Lambert, of Westfield, received a Bachelor of Arts degree. Nearly 700 students received degrees this year at Holy Cross, in exercises at which prominent American educator Jane McAuliffe, a world-renowned scholar of Islam and one of the senior leaders at the Library of Congress, was the principal speaker.

Maddie Newall of Westfield Receives Fordham Scholarship

WESTFIELD -- On May 2, the Fordham Alumni Chapter of Northern New Jersey hosted a reception at Echo Lake Country Club. The event featured a talk by Fordham's Director of Online Learning, Steven D'Agustino, Ph.D. The topic of discussion was how technology and online education are changing the way today's students learn. Alumni were also introduced to one of Fordham's incoming freshmen from New Jersey, Maddie Newall. Ms. Newall is a Westfield resident, graduating from Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung. She is a legacy student at Fordham and recipient of the Loyola Scholarship.

The Alumni Chapter will once again be hosting its reception in Spring Lake on August 15. For more information on Fordham alumni events, resources, and benefits, please visit forever.fordham.edu.

Molly Jackson Named to Dean's List at Mount St. Mary's University

WESTFIELD -- Molly Jackson of Westfield has earned dean's list honors for the Spring 2019 semester at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

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Westfield PTC Scholarship Fund Awards Scholarships

WESTFIELD -- The Westfield Parent Teacher Council (PTC) awarded the annual scholarships to nine outstanding Class of 2019 Seniors at Westfield High School on Senior Awards Night, May 22.

The total amount of the nine scholarships awarded was \$16,500. All the funds were generously donated by the community of Westfield throughout the year. The PTC Scholarship Fund was established 62 years ago, in 1957, and has benefited hundreds of very worthy Westfield High School graduates, enabling them to continue achieving great success at college

and beyond.

On behalf of the PTC, we'd like to thank all who contributed to this year's scholarship fund. Your donations will certainly make a difference as the recipients pursue their college degrees.

The PTC Scholarship Fund for 2020 is already in motion and for those who want to get a head start on supporting this worthy cause, please make your donation payable to "Westfield PTC Scholarship" and mail to Westfield PTC, 302 Elm Street, Westfield, N.J., ATTN: D. Kenney.



Photo courtesy of Susan M. Dougherty

SATURDAY SCRAMBLE... On a Saturday morning in early May, students from the Westfield High School (WHS) Key Club cook breakfast for homeless families staying at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield through a program the church embraces called Fish Hospitality. The teens scrambled up eggs and made pancakes, bacon and sausage for the guests. The WHS Key Club, part of the international organization, is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Greater Westfield.

The Student View

A Column Written by Local High School Students

By Amanda Pyle

This past weekend was the weekend that all high schoolers have been dreaming of since they first walked down the halls of Westfield High School (WHS) as a freshman: Prom Week. These three days are a sort of rite of passage for high schoolers, as well as a celebratory end to their four years at WHS.

It all starts on Saturday with prom. Preparations for prom start as early as 9 in the morning for me. At 9 a.m., I have a manicure and pedicure appointment, then at 11:15 a.m. I have my hair appointment, followed by my makeup appointment at 12:30 p.m. Finally, I will come home and put on my prom dress.

Shortly after I'm finished getting ready for the night, my family and friends are coming to my house to take pictures with my date (Matt) and I. Then, Matt and I will head to our pre-prom party that will also have tens of other couples who will be attending WHS' prom that night, where we will take a plethora of pictures and eat some snacks! And finally, all seniors will head to Pines Manor in Edison at 6 p.m. for our prom.

This day is busy, in every sense of the word. Not only does it consist of 14 hours straight of prom-related activities, but the festivities are continued into the next 50 hours or so. Directly after prom ends at 11 p.m., most students will head down the shore, primarily to Seaside Heights, as they begin what is known as Prom Weekend.

Once down the shore, WHS students will spend Saturday night, all of Sunday, all of Monday and a large part

of Monday morning in the prom houses that they have rented just for this weekend, months in advance. These few days consist of going to the beach, drawing on fellow students with sharpies, wearing ridiculous outfits, and having little to no sleep.

Although it may sound strange in writing, this weekend is a tradition for WHS seniors that is quite frankly the most anticipated event of the year. This weekend—followed by the annual "Senior Skip-Day" on the Monday after prom—serves as a "last hoorah" for us high schoolers as we close this chapter of our lives and start looking towards our new lives post-graduation.

WHS administration has recently placed serious restrictions on the Tuesday after Prom Weekend, as seniors start to return to their classes. They have explicitly said that we cannot wear sunglasses, we cannot put our heads down on tables during the day, we must wear "appropriate" clothes, we must come to school completely sober and we must bathe properly. Although these restrictions apply to seniors on that Tuesday during school, they will definitely not be taking away from the fun had during Prom Weekend.

Despite the disciplinary fear that accompanies the end of Prom Weekend, this weekend is one of the most iconic few days of our time at WHS. Nothing WHS administration could say or do could change the value seniors place on this weekend and the countless memories that are made by the crazy, youthful and bold class of 2019.



CONGRATULATIONS... Students from our local area graduated from Saint Peter's Preparatory School, May 23. Pictured, left to right, are: top row: Kealey, Pikus, Scheurer, Anderson; middle row: Grimaldi, Quinones, Keenaghan, Pettit, McGann, Lovito; bottom row: Hess, Lezynski, Johnston, Moriarty, Garcia. Missing: Bryant, Christman, Della Rocco, Manganello, Preite.

Local Students Graduate From Saint Peter's Prep

AREA -- Saint Peter's Preparatory School celebrated its 141st Commencement at Saint Peter's University on Thursday, May 23. The following local residents graduated:

Cranford: James Anderson (Scholar Athlete, Magna Cum Laude, Georgetown University), Timothy Garcia (Syracuse University), Owen Kealy (University of Scranton), Patrick Keenaghan (Cum Laude, Scholar Athlete Award, Elon University), James McGann (Fordham University), Jacob Quinones (Cum Laude, Scholar Athlete Award, Pennsylvania State University), and Robert Scheurer (Saint Bonaventure University).

Fanwood: Liam Christman (College of the Holy Cross).

Mountainside: Kyle Hess (Magna Cum Laude, Scholar Athlete Award, University of Notre Dame).

Westfield: Nathan Bryant (Drexel University), Christian Della Rocco (The Hill Academy), Patrick Johnston (Fairfield University), Aidan Lezynski

(Cum Laude, Scholar Athlete Award, Fordham University), Mark Lovito (Cum Laude, Scholar Athlete Award, American University), Nicholas Manganello (Gettysburg College), James Moriarty (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University), John Pettit (Fordham University), William Pikus (Loyola University Maryland), and Matthew Preite (the University of Scranton).

Mountainside resident Kyle Hess was awarded the Jeff Kachel, '89 Award, given to the senior baseball player who demonstrates loyalty and perseverance. Westfield resident John Pettit was presented with the John McGovern Award, given to the senior who best embodies the qualities of the late John McGovern, '80, who exemplified the traits of leadership and selfless dedication to the basketball program. Cranford resident Timothy Garcia was recognized by the National Hispanic Recognition Scholars Program. William Pikus won the gold medal in Creative Writing.



LUCKY SPROUT... Union County Freeholders name Kelly Hanratty, pictured left, from Mountainside, eighth grade winner of the Arbor Day Poetry Contest. At the Union County Freeholder Meeting in Elizabeth on May 16, Kelly read her poem "The Lucky Sprout," and accepted her award for the first place, eighth grade winner in Union County. It was a wonderful piece about the beauty, strength and resilience of nature. Mountainside Schools wish to congratulate Kelly, and thank her teacher, Sarah Onore, pictured right, for being the advisor on this project and for encouraging and inspiring our young writers.

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It's Almost Graduation time!

ATTENTION PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS:

Congratulate your child or grandchild and send them well wishes for the future in

The Westfield Leader

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