

CYAN YELLOW MAGENTA BLACK



**TELEVISION CREW...** Pictured above are some of the students who play an active role in television production and stage activities at Terrill Middle School in Scotch Plains. Joseph Farrell teaches the students how to hook up sound and lighting equipment as well as techniques in using the camcorder for television work at school. In addition to filming and doing stage work for school productions and class activities, students also work additional hours for pay when the auditorium is used by community groups. The students raise funds for some microphones and small equipment by conducting pizza sales.

## Union Catholic Announces Local Honor Roll Students

SCOTCH PLAINS — Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains recently announced Honor Roll standings for the first marking period.

To be eligible for First Honors, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.6 with no grades of "C" or "D."

For Second Honors, students must earn a grade point average of 3.0, with only one "C" and no "D's" permitted.

From Westfield, those students who achieved First Honors were Albert Nodar, Grade 12; Katie Behr, Grade 11, and Leanne Kacsur and Lisa Morkowitz, Grade 9.

Receiving Second Honors from Westfield were Tiana Mayes, Grade 12; Tracey Doherty, Grade 11, and John Wilkinson, Grade 10.

Scotch Plains students who earned

First Honors were Joseph Gregov, Gina Hernandez and Thomas Werner, Grade 12; Jamie Bennett and Nicole Manziano, Grade 11, and Laura Colon and Kelly Feil, Grade 10.

Those students from Scotch Plains who achieved Second Honors were Allison Mack and Brian Reagan, Grade 11, and Laura Boes, Grade 9.

Fanwood students who achieved First Honors were Matthew Price, Christopher Sandiford and Thomas C. Williams, Grade 12, and Kathryn Schurtz, Grade 10.

Students from Fanwood who were awarded Second Honors were Erica Schweikert, Grade 12; Edward Winsor, Grade 11, and Ryan Price, Grade 10.

Mountainside students Andrea Keller and Tarat Puzyk, both in Grade 9, achieved First Honors.

## Sen. DiFrancesco Seeks To Adjust Aid to Towns Based on Inflation Rate

During a keynote address at the annual League of Municipalities Convention which was recently held in Atlantic City, Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco said he would ask Governor Christine Todd Whitman and Assembly Speaker Jack Collins to work with him in establishing an inflation adjustment provision in the state's municipal aid program that would be used for direct property tax relief.

"The inflation adjustment program for municipal aid would 'be fair to taxpayers because it helps hold the line on property taxes without a tax increase,'" said Senator DiFrancesco, who was serving as Acting Governor at the time of his speech.

"The adjustment component would be the most realistic and equitable way to help municipalities cope with the inevitable increases in the cost of operating local government," he explained.

In his remarks, Senator DiFrancesco also called on developers, builders, municipal officials and legislators to come to back to the negotiating table and move forward on legislation that would expand a municipality's power to assess impact fees.

"I invite all parties to join me in a results-oriented discussion that will produce a fair system of impact fees," said Senator DiFrancesco. "Finding the right balance between economic reality and aesthetic and environmental quality is a goal that we cannot afford to take lightly as we approach the next century."

Senator DiFrancesco also asked the League of Municipalities' membership to assist him and the Legislature in preparing the legislation that will implement the new constitutional amendment approved by the voters on November 3 that will dedicate \$98 million toward open space preservation.

Citing his concern that the legisla-

tion account for the "financial, logistic, practical needs of our municipalities," Senator DiFrancesco said he is committed to drafting enabling legislation that provides for the varying needs of New Jersey's diverse communities.

"We recognize that some towns may need funds to prevent a crumbling historic site from fading into the history books forever. Some communities may need help protecting local family farmlands.

"Some of our cities may need assistance setting aside recreation space or creating 'vest pocket parks.' These diverse needs will not go overlooked or unfunded," DiFrancesco said.

The Senate President also reaffirmed his intention to develop a matching grant program within the open space initiative that would reward communities and counties that dedicate funds to open space preservation through self imposed taxes, budget allocations or general obligation bonds.

"Many towns and counties went to the ballot this year to ask residents to support future open space programs and I am confident that a formal rewards program would encourage even more communities to invest in a long-term open space plan," said Senator DiFrancesco, who originally proposed a state matching grant program last January.

## Phyllis Diller to Welcome New Year at Paper Mill

Comedienne Phyllis Diller will headline the gala New Year's Eve celebration at Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn for two performances on Thursday, December 31, at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

The Duprees and magician Mercer Helms will also perform at the gala.



**CARING AND SHARING...** The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross worked with students from the Westfield "Y" Pre-School program on "Friendship Around the World." The project, in which youngsters filled boxes with small toys and other items for needy children, was coordinated by Eileen Rooney of the Westfield "Y" Preschool Program. Pictured are the "Y" children hand-delivering their "friendship boxes" to the Westfield/Mountainside Red Cross Chapter in Westfield.

## Westfield YMCA Students Join Red Cross Charity

WESTFIELD — The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross recently worked with students from the Westfield "Y" Pre-School in the Red Cross program "Friendship Around the World."

Eileen Rooney of the Westfield "Y" Preschool Program coordinated the participation of the three- and

four-year-old children in the special project.

The students received one box to be filled for a girl or a boy with small toys, personal items such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloth, soap, shampoo, brush and comb, or supplies of paper, pens, pencils, rulers and erasers.

The youngsters hand-delivered their gifts to the Westfield/Mountainside Red Cross Chapter. The Red Cross distributes the filled boxes to a central location, and they are shipped to children all over the world.

This year-round project works into the "Y" program entitled "Character Count," in which pre-school age children learn responsibility, community support, and that everyone is not as fortunate as them.



Phyllis Diller

performed as a piano soloist with symphony orchestras in the United States and Canada. Her artwork has also been displayed in galleries across the country.

The Duprees are best known for their songs "You Belong to Me," "Have You Heard," "My One True Love," and "Goodnight My Love."

Show tickets are \$55, \$65, and \$70 for the 7 p.m. performance, and \$55, \$70, and \$75 for the 10 p.m. performance.

A special "Duets" package will be available at \$145 per person for the 7 p.m. performance, and \$150 for the 10 p.m. show. This package will include dinner at the F. M. Kirby Carriage House Restaurant, show tickets and parking.

Tickets for the Midnight Buffet and the 10 p.m. show are \$120.

To order tickets, please call the box office at (973) 376-4343. For ticket package information, please call Millie at (973) 379-3636, Extension No. 2432.

## High School Hosts Programs for Gay, Lesbian Awareness

WESTFIELD — The Human Relations Committee of Westfield High School recently sponsored "Season of Light: Spirit of Inclusion," a week-long program of activities designed to raise student and staff awareness about teenage gay and lesbian issues.

The committee organized a series of workshops and focus groups. Faculty members structured lessons in their classes to feature themes of diversity or contributions by gays and lesbians.

Members of PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), as well as a panel of speakers from the Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Rutgers University, held discussion groups in the library during the lunch periods.

Messages highlighting the contributions of gays and lesbians were read each day during homeroom announcements, and a showcase display of scholarly material on gay/lesbian issues was created by the library.

Westfield High School Principal, Dr. Robert G. Petix, stated at a recent faculty meeting, "Addressing the needs of gay and lesbian students at Westfield High School reflects our school's ongoing commitment to creating an inclusive environment in which all students feel safe, valued and respected."

"By honoring diversity of sexual orientation, race, class, gender and ethnicity, we hope to make all students and staff feel comfortable and welcome at Westfield High School," he concluded.

## Ralph Mattison Wraps Army Training Course

MOUNTAINSIDE — United States Army Second Lieutenant Ralph S. Mattison, Jr. has graduated the armor officer basic course at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

The course covers branch training in armor for newly-commissioned officers, with emphasis on the duties of tank and reconnaissance platoon leaders.

It also includes instruction in automotive principles and maintenance, communications, weapons and tactics.

Lieutenant Mattison is the son of Ralph S. Mattison of Richmond, Virginia and Alice Oberman of Mountainside.

He is a 1988 graduate of John F. Kennedy High School in Suffolk, Virginia, and a 1995 graduate of Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

The Lieutenant received his master's degree earlier this year from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas.

## Paul Faulkner Halfway Through Deployment

FANWOOD — United States Navy Petty Officer First Class Paul D. Faulkner, the son of Carmel Cox of Fanwood, is currently halfway through a six-month deployment to Middle East Forces Pacific aboard the guided missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton, home ported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Petty Officer Faulkner's ship is part of the multinational interception force in the Arabian Gulf to support United Nations sanctions levied against Iraq after the 1991 Gulf War.

During the deployment, crew members from Petty Officer Faulkner's ship participated in Project Handclasp, an official Navy program established in 1962 to promote goodwill between American citizens and those of other lands through direct, person-to-person contact.

Petty Officer Faulkner graduated from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School in 1979. He joined the Navy in February of 1984.

## James Johnson Retires From Brooklyn College

WESTFIELD — James P. Johnson, a professor and historian at Brooklyn College since 1966, will retire at the end of the fall semester.

Mr. Johnson received a bachelor of arts degree from Duke University. He taught at Poly Prep County Day School and later earned his doctoral degree from Columbia University.

He won the Louis B. Pelzer Prize for history from the Organization of American Historians in 1966 from Columbia University. He also taught at Pace University.

Mr. Johnson was named a Teaching Fellow by the Danforth Foundation in 1974. He also served on the Westfield Board of Education from 1972 to 1975.

He has authored "The Politics of Soft Coal," "Westfield: from Settlement to Suburb," and "New Jersey: A History of Ingenuity and Industry," as well as articles in professional and scholarly journals. He co-authored "Riteous Carnage: The John List Murders in 1991," with Timothy Benford of Mountainside.



**BEAUTIFUL BROWNIES...** During the half-day session of conference week, Brownie Girl Scouts from McGinn Elementary School's Troop No. 640 were treated to an afternoon of beauty at the Union County Vocational-Technical School in Scotch Plains. Senior cosmetology students practiced their washing, curling, braiding, and manicuring skills on the third-grade girls. Pictured, left to right, are: front, Jayne Dzuback and Christine Leide; center, Barbie Slauch and Michele Silverstein; and back, Annie Smith and Emily Jones.

## Westfield Review Reveals Upcoming SAT Class Dates

WESTFIELD — Les Jacobsen, Director of Westfield Review, Inc., has announced the Winter/Spring 1999 schedule of Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) and SAT preparation courses.

The upcoming program will begin in February on three different dates. Classes will be held on Wednesdays starting February 10; Thursdays starting February 11, or Sundays starting February 14. Classes are held at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield on Mountain Avenue.

All three sections will consist of 24 hours of total instruction in both verbal and mathematics given over eight different sessions which last three hours each.

Westfield Review offers a comprehensive SAT and PSAT preparation

program which emphasizes the strategies and techniques needed for success, according to Mr. Jacobsen.

Each class is taught by certified instructors in their subject area who are currently teaching at Westfield High School. Students are encouraged to discuss techniques and strategies and to ask questions.

Instruction techniques vary from class lecture to individual work to small student groups interacting with the instructor. Students practice their techniques on actual SAT examinations that are published by the College Board which makes up the SATs.

Classes are small and seats are limited. The classes will be filled on a first come, first served basis. To reserve a class space or for further information, please call (908) 317-2774.

## Students Invited to Compete In Theatre, Speech Festival

High school students from around the state are invited to compete in the third annual New Jersey High School Theatre Festival and Speech Competition on Saturday, January 30, from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. The snow date for the event is Sunday, January 31.

The festival, sponsored by the Speech and Theatre Association of New Jersey, Inc., is being presented in association with the New Jersey Governor's Awards in Arts Education.

All high school students are eligible to compete in the following performing arts categories:

Dramatic Monologue or Comedy Monologue, five minute performance; Dramatic Pairs or Comedy Pairs, 10-minute performance; Improvisational Pairs, seven-minute performance, and Scene Competition, 15-minute performance.

Each high school may enter up to five students in each of the six competition categories. Judges will provide written critiques to each participating student.

Awards will be given to the top five contestants in each category. Students who win the top awards at the festival will be honored at the New Jersey Governor's Awards in Arts Education dinner in May.

Students or teachers may receive registration material by calling the Speech and Theatre Association of New Jersey at (973) 748-0313 or (973) 655-5214. The registration deadline is Friday, January 15.

The Speech and Theatre Association of New Jersey, Inc. is a professional organization for speech and theater educators. It advocates the inclusion of theater arts and speech in educational curricula.



**WINNING PUBLICATION...** The Edison Intermediate School newspaper, *The Edison Wildcat*, was recently acknowledged as a gold medal winner by Columbia Scholastic Press Association in the annual critique contest. The newspaper is published six to eight times per year with a staff that changes each semester. Advisor Bob Hild has led the staff for 17 years. He has taught interviewing techniques and writing fundamentals. The 1997-1998 editors Crystal Aldrich, Valerie Chu, Katherine Hild and Bree Sherry were also honored. Pictured above is Bob Hild discussing the next *Wildcat* edition with staff member Andrea Pinho.

## Jermal Quinn Serving On USS Carl Vinson Aircraft Carrier

SCOTCH PLAINS — United States Navy Petty Officer Third Class Jermal A. Quinn recently departed on a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans and the Arabian Gulf while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson, home ported in Bremerton, Washington.

Petty Officer Quinn is among more than 11,000 Pacific Fleet sailors and Marines who have been assigned to the ships of the USS Carl Vinson Battle Group. The group is comprised of seven surface combatants, two submarines and 10 aircraft squadrons.

A 1990 graduate of Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains, Petty Officer Quinn joined the Navy in November of 1995.

Union County Residents \$20/Year • All Others \$24/Year



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