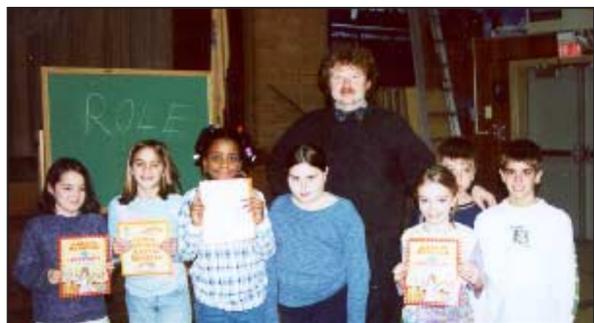


Concepts & Thought



TALKING ABOUT 'AMELIA'...Herman Parish, author of the amusing "Amelia Bedelia" series of books, discusses the history of the character, and how he writes his stories, with Jefferson Elementary School students at an "Author in Residence" presentation.

Jefferson Students are Visited By 'Amelia Bedelia' Author

WESTFIELD — As part of the "Author in Residence" program, students at Jefferson Elementary School in Westfield were recently introduced to Herman Parish, author of the "Amelia Bedelia" series of books.

This Parent Teacher Organization-sponsored event is in its second year and gives the children the opportunity to hear a presentation from and ask questions of familiar authors.

Mr. Parish explained to students that his aunt, Peggy Parish, started the series of books in 1963. Two characters in the books, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, were named for her grandparents, who lived down the road from her. Ms. Parish grew up in Manning, S.C., and, after college, moved to New York to teach third grade and collected many ideas for her books.

After Ms. Parish's death in 1988, Herman Parish continued writing about the confused character in "Amelia Bedelia 4 Mayor," "Bravo, Amelia Bedelia!" and "Good Driving, Amelia Bedelia."

Mr. Parish shared with the children how he writes his stories. He explained how the English language borrows expressions from many other languages and therefore can have double meanings. He noted that he always carries a notebook with him to jot down ideas as they occur or phrases as

he hears them.

Students were excited to hear that Mr. Parish just completed writing his latest book, "Amelia Bedelia, M.D.," which should be in bookstores in 2002.



IT'S A WONDERFUL PLACE...The parents and teachers at Westfield's Washington School will present their 53rd annual musical production, "It's a Wonderful Place," at Roosevelt Intermediate School tomorrow, Friday, February 2, at 8 p.m. and Saturday, February 3, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Reserved tickets are \$6 for afternoon performances and \$8 for evening performances. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Virtual Box Office at (908) 789-9223, or through ERA/Burgdorff Realtors, located at 600 North Avenue. The production serves as the school's primary fundraiser.

Jeremy White Achieves Eagle Scout Designation



Jeremy White

SCOTCH PLAINS — Jeremy White, a member of Boy Scout Troop No. 104 of Scotch Plains, recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout — the highest honor in Boy Scouting and a level achieved by only a small percentage of scouts.

He was recognized during a Court of Honor ceremony that was held January 3 at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Scotch Plains.

Jeremy has held various leadership positions, including senior patrol leader, and has completed 23 merit badges.

His Eagle Scout service project

consisted of organizing and supervising other scouts in surveying, identifying existing markings and creating a map and registry binder listing the locations of all the individual grave sites in the historic cemetery located at the Scotch Plains Baptist Church.

Over the past five summers, he participated in treks in the Adirondack Mountains. This past February, with Troop No. 104, he helped organize and led a trek to the Grand Canyon. Jeremy currently attends Salisbury State University in Salisbury, Md., where he is majoring in communications.

DECA Chapter Recipient of 95 Awards At Annual Regional Competition

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School DECA Chapter, an association of marketing students, won 95 awards at their annual Central Region Competitions, the highest total in their 31 years of competition.

Competing against nearly 1,000 students from 25 schools in Central New Jersey, the 108-member Scotch Plains-Fanwood delegation brought home 62 trophies in proficiency-based competitions of instructional areas in their marketing class.

The competitions include an objective test and case studies of real business problems, in marketing areas such as management, promotions, selling, economics, basic & social skills and market research.

Leading the way winning first place was the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Quiz Bowl team of seniors Rob Bugg, David Belt, Doug Gillie and David Larkin. Other first place overall winners include senior Michael Dixon in the Quick Serve Restaurant Management event, the team of seniors Tim Gander and Eric Konzleman, Travel & Tourism Management; juniors Ryan Crawford, Business Services Marketing; David Baumwoll, Marketing Management Services; Andrew Pavoni, Retail Merchandising, and freshman Michael Hessemer,

Apparel & Accessories.

Michael's first place finish marks the first time a Scotch Plains-Fanwood freshman has won top honors.

Second Place overall winners include seniors Jessica LoBrace, Apparel; Sunita Shah, Business Services; Elizabeth Hogan, Marketing Management; the team of Sara Magnola and Kate Sang, Hospitality & Tourism, and the junior team of Tyler Stender and Daniel Zelikman, Financial Management.

Third place honors went to seniors Robert Cardinale, Vehicle & Petroleum Marketing; Andrew Babicz, Marketing Management; Patrick Dinsmore, Technical Marketing; Chris Gawryluk and David Larking, Hospitality; David Bell and Rob Bugg, Sports & Entertainment Marketing; juniors Jay Cordes and Michael Hughes, Travel & Tourism;

Matthew Vanderheyden, Retail Merchandising; and sophomore Anthony Caruso, Food Marketing.

Other winners who became eligible to compete on the state level include seniors Doug Gillie, James McClintock, Andrew Elko, Russell Minio, Peter Civins, Alyssa Sams, Katherine Bruno, Derek Mogull, Kate Berezak, Sandra Franco, Damon Clark, Anthony Gicas, Erin Watson, Brett Bushinger, Anthony Blasi, Portia Schlegel, John Corbin, Damiano Gaetano, Melissa Lemus; juniors Brian Schiller, Robert Mattar, Steven Lowen, Ryan O'Donnell, Kerry McVey Jesse Rogowsky, Luis Cruz, Maura Daly, sophomores Danielle Hirschhorn, Lenore McMillian, Chris Zidonik, Charles Bachi, and Kendra Andrews; freshmen Robert Kuchinski, Joshua Kay, and Adam Corbin.

WHS Senior Randi Siegel Nominated For Principal's Leadership Award

WESTFIELD — Randi Siegel, a senior at Westfield High School (WHS), has been nominated by Dr. Robert G. Petix, WHS Principal, to compete in the Principal's Leadership Award Program (PLA) sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

Randi's nomination is based on her leadership skills, participation in service organizations, academic achievements in the arts and sciences and employment experiences. As part of her nomination, Randi wrote an essay about the impact of computer technology and the Internet on education.

Funded by Herff Jones, Inc., the PLA program for which Randi has been nominated makes her eligible to receive a \$1,000 college scholarship. One-hundred fifty PLA scholarships nationwide will be awarded this spring.

While at Westfield High School, Randi, a National Merit Scholarship commended scholar, has continually made the distinguished honor roll and has also been a Student Council member for four years, serving for two

years as an executive board member and two as corresponding secretary. Her extra-curricular activities include the Spanish Club, Junior Optimist Club, Women's Studies Club, National Honor Society, and Spanish National Honor Society.

Beyond Westfield High School, Randi has also served as the student representative on a town-wide Citizens' Advisory Committee on the proposed renovation of the high school. The recipient of the Xerox Award for excellence in leadership, the humanities and social sciences, Randi has attended many youth leadership conferences since intermediate school, including Leadership Training Camp, the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar, and the Presidential Classroom Program.

"Randi is an extraordinary student leader in our high school," commented Dr. Petix. "Her impressive academic accomplishments and her outstanding record of service to her school and community," added Dr. Petix, "stand as a reminder of the best in America's teenagers."



LEARNING THE LEGAL SYSTEM...Superior Court Judge Benjamin Cohen spoke to Rita Selesner's and Judy Lasher's seventh grade history classes on January 10 at Terrill Middle School in Scotch Plains. Judge Cohen explained the workings of the legal system and his experiences presiding in a Newark courtroom. Pictured, left to right, are: Barry Shapiro, Randolph Smith, Michelle Allemen, Elaine Piniati, law clerk Jay Ibrahim, Judge Cohen, Chelsea Holloway and Christine Albanese-DeMair.

Local Residents Make Dean's List At Lafayette College

AREA — The names of 633 Lafayette College students who have been named to the 2000 fall semester Dean's List were recently announced by Christopher W. Gray, Dean of Studies.

The following area residents were included among those named:

- Nadine Ana Kwiatkowski of Scotch Plains
- Michael Samuel Milberger of Scotch Plains
- Stephen Jay Chiger of Westfield
- Andrew Christian Stotler of Westfield
- Molly Christine Phelan of Westfield

Nicholas Stefiuk Makes Fall President's List At Plymouth State Col.

WESTFIELD — Nicholas Stefiuk of Westfield is among 270 Plymouth State College students named to the President's List for the fall semester.



Matthew Hanas Makes Dean's List At Fairleigh Dickinson

WESTFIELD — Matthew Hanas of Westfield has been named to the Dean's List at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison for the fall semester. Matthew also received high honors. He is a mathematics major.

Westfielders Take Part In Dartmouth Program For Foreign Study

WESTFIELD — Dora J. Sugar of Westfield, a senior at Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., is studying biology in Central America as well as the Caribbean this winter as part of the college's foreign study program.

Dora is the daughter of Istvan and Agnes Sugar of Westfield.

In addition, Sara Carpenter of Westfield, a sophomore at Dartmouth, is studying French in Paris this winter as part of the foreign study program.

Sara is the daughter of Ronald and Diane Carpenter of Westfield.

Steven Kassakian Makes Dean's List At U. of Washington

WESTFIELD — Steven Kassakian of Westfield has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Local Students Receive Degrees From NJIT

WESTFIELD — Meredith Doll and Aleksander Petersen of Westfield received their degrees as part of the largest January graduating class in the history of New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). The school's 115th commencement was held at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.

Local Residents Named To Fall Dean's List At Univ. of Hartford

AREA — Two area residents have been named to the fall semester Dean's List at the University of Hartford in West Hartford, Conn.

They are Modiegi Notoane of Fanwood and Annie Thode of Westfield.

Brian Osborn Named To Fall Dean's List At Centenary College

WESTFIELD — Brian Osborn of Westfield has earned Dean's List status at Centenary College in Hackettstown.

Brian, the son of Peter and Claudia Osborn, is a freshman majoring in business administration with a concentration in sports management. He is also a member of the Centenary College baseball team.

He is a 2000 graduate of Westfield High School.

Trailside Center to Host Programs During Winter School Break

MOUNTAINSIDE — During the winter school break, February 19 through February 23, the Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside will feature "February Festivities," a week full of special programs for children and their families.

Highlighting this year's schedule is magician Ron Owen, who will present "Magic is Funny" on Tuesday, February 20, at 1:30 p.m., for children 4 and older. Tickets are \$4 per person and will be sold at the door. No children under 4 will be admitted.

Two planetarium shows entitled "The Sky Inside" will be offered for children ages 4 to 6, accompanied by an adult, on Monday, February 19, at 11 a.m. and again at 12:15 p.m. Participants will learn about the transition of daytime into nighttime and witness the movement of the sun and moon. Tickets are \$3 per person and will be sold at the door.

At 1:30 p.m. on February 19, "The

Journey from Sap to Syrup" will be presented for families with children of all ages in the Visitor Center auditorium. This program will begin with a slide-illustrated discussion which will explain how Native Americans made maple sugar, as well as how it is made today.

Participants will walk to a sugar maple tree to see a tap in action and take part in a taste test. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$3 per person.

Participants in the "Wildlife Watch," offered on February 19 and 20 at 3:30 p.m., for families with children ages 6 and older, will observe animals who are visiting the bird feeding station and then search the outdoors for winter wildlife.

These winter walks will end with stories by a campfire, hot chocolate and marshmallows. The fee is \$3 per person, pre-registration is required, and participants are advised to dress warmly. "Kindly Kits" will be offered before the magic show on February 20 at 11

a.m., for families with children ages 4 and older. Participants will collect sticks, twigs, holly, evergreen sprigs and colorful berries to create a bundle that will help to start a winter fire blazing. A \$3 fee will be charged per kit and pre-registration is required.

This year, Trailside will offer an "Owl Prowl" for families with children 6 and older on February 20 at 6:30 p.m. The program will begin with a brief slide show followed by an outdoor walk to listen for resident owls of the Watchung Reservation. A \$3 fee will be charged and pre-registration is required.

The vacation programs will close out on Friday, February 23, at 1:30 p.m., with "Snakes of New Jersey" for families with children age 6 and older. Twenty-one different species of snakes live in New Jersey. Participants will observe snake feeding in Trailside's reptile room.

The fee for the program is \$3 per person and pre-registration is required.

Trailside is a facility of the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation. The center is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside. For more information, please call (908) 789-3670.



WELCOME TO NATURE...Families enjoy a naturalist-led winter walk through the forest during last year's "February Festivities," a program sponsored by the Trailside Nature and Science Center. This year's festivities will take place from Monday through Friday, February 19 to 23.

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102 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ

PILATES is back! Classes forming

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Fri. Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m. - Spiritual Dance Workshop
Sun., Feb. 18, 2:00 p.m. - Suzan Victoria

For details call: (908) 232-8956

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