



SPACE EXPLORERS...Members of Cadette Girl Scout Troop No. 621 of Scotch Plains-Fanwood are pictured outside the "Starlab" they used to help two Brownie troops learn about space. Pictured, left to right, are: Back row, Casey Griffin, Bailey Fowler, Lauren Edwards and Julie Meurer; middle row, Melissa Loewinger, Courtney Berger, Cristin Joy, MaryKate Schiller, Maggie Bernhard and Erin O'Connor, and kneeling, Molly Forman, Lauren Alyward, Jen Gaglioti and Lauren Spirko.

Cadette Troop Helps Brownies Learn About Wonders of Space

SCOTCH PLAINS—Cadette Girl Scouts from Troop No. 621 of Scotch Plains-Fanwood recently helped two Brownie troops earn their Space Exploration Try-it (a Brownie level badge). This was also a step the Cadettes needed to complete in order to earn a badge themselves.

The older scouts helped the Brownies make a balloon rocket, create their own constellation and create a Space Colony. The main attraction of the program was the "Starlab," or a portable planetarium, provided by MISE (Merck Institute for Science Education).

Troop Leader Laura Meurer and her husband, Roger, both employees

of Merck & Co., Inc., assisted the scouts in their Starlab presentation. The Brownies entered the bubble and learned about the stars, planets and constellations, and were able to go outside and identify many of the stars they learned about in the Starlab.

Presbyterian Women To Present Program By Cancer Survivor

WESTFIELD - The Presbyterian Women's Association of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield will present speaker Minette McKenna on Thursday, February 15, at 9:30 a.m. in the Christian Lounge and Annex of the Parish House on Mountain Avenue.

A registered nurse and homemaker, Ms. McKenna is an eight-year cancer survivor who speaks at public events and schools on behalf of the American Cancer Society to promote early cancer detection.

In her talk, entitled "Touched by Grace," she will discuss her good fortune, as well as the trials and triumphs she and her family and friends have dealt with, along with her cancer.

The cost of the program is \$1.50. Child care is available upon request by calling the church office at (908) 233-0301.

Pfc. Alexander Polce Reports for Duty At Marine Corps Base

MOUNTAINSIDE—Marine Corps Private First Class Alexander J. Polce, the son of Geri D. and Richard D. Polce of Mountainside, recently reported for duty with United States Marine Corps Security Force Company, Naval Submarine Base Bangor, in Silverdale, Wash.

Private Polce is a 1999 graduate of Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights and joined the Marine Corps in June of 1999.



Eric C. Rubin and Ms. Andrea J. Hess

Ms. Andrea J. Hess Engaged to Eric C. Rubin

Ms. Andrea J. Hess of Westport, Conn., the daughter of the late Nancy R. and Sanford O. Hess, has announced her engagement to Eric C. Rubin. He is the son of Andrea and Mark Rubin of Basking Ridge, formerly of Westfield.

Ms. Hess is a 1993 graduate of Staples High School in Westport. She earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Clinical Psychology from Tufts University in 1997 and is currently pursuing a master's degree at Teachers College of Columbia University.

Her fiancé, a 1993 graduate of Westfield High School, received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Journalism from Indiana University in 1997. He is employed as a digital media editor at TheDeal.com, a financial Website.

Ann Polak Earns Academic Honors At Skidmore College

WESTFIELD - Ann Polak, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Polak of Westfield and a member of the Class of 2001 at Skidmore College, earned honors during the fall semester at Skidmore.

A wedding is planned for the summer of 2002.

Scotch Plains Women Treated to Program By Trailside Director

SCOTCH PLAINS - Hollace Hoffman, Director of the Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside, spoke to the Scotch Plains Woman's Club, a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, on January 10 at the Scotch Hills Country Club in Scotch Plains.

Introduced by Program Chairwoman Edith Czerepski, Ms. Hoffman presented a program entitled "Before Supermarkets."

A native of Lynnfield, Mass., she graduated from Albion College in Michigan with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology and Sociology. She was awarded a Master of Science Degree in Plant Ecology from Rutgers University.

The program was preceded by a luncheon hosted by Hospitality Chairwoman Celeste Krowicki, assisted by Terry Stolting, Doka Kamp, Shirley Ballantyne and Alice Marks.



MR. AND MRS. THOMAS A. CALUGAY (She is the former Miss Mieko S. Saito)

Miss Mieke S. Saito Weds Thomas A. Calugay

Miss Mieke S. Saito, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Yorishige Saito of Westfield, was married on Saturday, December 2, to Thomas A. Calugay. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Angel Calugay of Honolulu, Hawaii.

The ceremony and reception took place at the Crystal Plaza in Livingston, with Judge James Heimlich officiating.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her parents, wore a white satin, sleeveless gown. It featured a scoop neckline, a bodice of hand-beaded white pearls and crystals, and a chapel-length train. She wore a fingertip veil with a tiara of pearls, and carried a bouquet of white Alaska, porcelana and oceania roses.

The bridegroom's attire was complemented by a Hawaiian lei of white and burgundy plumeria.

Mrs. Jodi Buyounouski of Maplewood served as the matron of honor. The bridesmaids included Miss Linda Horiuchi of Cupertino,

Calif., the cousin of the bride; Miss Tricia Su of Ocean, Miss Miladys Felix of the Bronx and Miss Tiffany Yamaoka of South Salem, N.Y.

All wore strapless satin gowns, amethyst on the top and dark violet on the bottom, with matching wraps. They carried purple, lavender and white hand-tied bouquets.

Raul Sanchez, Jr. of Jersey City was the best man. The ushers included Ryuichi Saito of Westfield, the brother of the bride; Damon Granato of Parlin, Jason Borel and Ernesto Rocha, both of Jersey City.

A 1991 alumna of Westfield High School, the bride graduated from Lehigh University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing. She is employed as an Operations Manager for FORTUNE magazine at Time Inc.

The bridegroom graduated from St. Louis High School in Honolulu and from Rutgers University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance. He is a senior account executive for Ameriquest Mortgage in West Orange.

Following a wedding trip to Oahu, Kauai and Maui in Hawaii, the couple reside in Westfield.

Mercurios Welcome Paris Giselle

Lisa and Michael Mercurio of Scotch Plains have announced the birth of their first child, daughter Paris Giselle Mercurio, on Wednesday, January 10, at 4:59 p.m. at Newark Beth Israel Hospital.

Paris weighed 6 pounds and 14 ounces and measured 19 1/4 inches in length at birth.

Leon and Rita Gutmann of Scotch Plains are the maternal grandparents.

Paris' paternal grandparents are Robert and Anne Wilson of Bridgewater.

Hanny Schaferman is the baby's maternal great-grandmother.

Open Houses Slated At Fanwood Chelsea

FANWOOD - The Chelsea at Fanwood will join four other Chelsea assisted living residences by hosting open houses on Sundays, February 11 and 25, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Participants will have an opportunity to tour the facility and enjoy light refreshments. The Fanwood facility is one of several Chelsea locations operated by Castle Senior Living, LLC of Summit.

For more information about the open houses or to schedule a tour, please call, toll-free, (877) 243-5732.

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