

Concepts & Thought



FOOD AND NUTRITION...The Pre-K Title One students at Brunner Elementary School and School One Elementary in Scotch Plains recently took class trips to King's Supermarket in Short Hills to learn about foods, the workings of a supermarket and to sample goodies. The trip was planned as an initiating activity for a unit of study on Food and Nutrition. Brunner students Chrissy O'Connor and Ryan Kelly, enjoy cookies during their trip.

Junior Achievement Offices Consolidate in Mountainside

MOUNTAINSIDE - Junior Achievement (JA) has announced that four New Jersey district offices combined operations on Thursday, February 1.

The four offices which merged are JA of Union County in Mountainside, JA of Southern New Jersey in Willingboro, JA of Central New Jersey in Lawrenceville, and JA of Northern New Jersey in Newark.

The combined company has placed its statewide headquarters in Mountainside. The newly-expanded JA office will handle programs for schools in the state, with the exception of Salem County, and will operate under the new name of Junior Achievement of

New Jersey.

The consolidation is designed to create more opportunities in key areas and effectively reach more children throughout the state. The four offices reached 26,500 students during the 1999-2000 school year, and plans to increase their student impact by 35 percent to 36,000 students this year. The strategic five-year goal for JA of New Jersey is to reach a minimum of 100,000 students annually.

For more information about the consolidation and opportunities for companies to volunteer in JA classrooms, please call Michael O'Loughlin, President of JA of New Jersey at (908) 317-9600.

SPFHS PTA Works to Wage War on Substance Abuse

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) Parent Teacher Association (PTA) has developed a three-pronged approach to help students, parents and the community combat substance abuse.

Students will be impacted through their participation in the "Challenge Question of the Month." Each month, a guest questioner will pose a challenge question.

Four representatives, one from each class, will try to answer the question during their lunch period. Each winner will be awarded a gift certificate from a community business and the winner's class will earn a monetary prize.

The aim is to have the students become more aware through actively discussing the dangers of drugs and drinking, as well as responsible choices they should make.

November's question winners were Walter Biner, grade 10, Renee Zidonik, grade 12, and Ashley Esposito, grade 11. Queries dealing with the dangers of LSD and marijuana were asked by guest questioner, SPFHS Principal Dr. David Heisey.

In December, 12th graders Najwa Glover and Shannon McEneely and 10th grader Ray DiNizo provided the correct answer to a question discussing tobacco use and addictions posed by Assistant Principal Chuck Cancellia.

Mr. Cancellia was also the questioner in January. He posed a question dealing with the "club drug"

Lauren Blalock Named International Intern At Rhodes College

SCOTCH PLAINS - Lauren Blalock has been named a Mertie W. Buckman International Intern at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn.

This merit-based program places select International Studies majors for two months during the summer with an international company.

Lauren will be interning with Federal Express in Frankfurt, Germany in June and July.

The purpose of these internships is to learn about politics and culture in an international environment while also improving language skills and gaining practical experience while working for an international company.

Lauren is a sophomore at Rhodes College, where she is majoring in international studies and political science with minors in business administration and German.

She is a 1999 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

Ecstasy. January's winners were 11th graders Kerri Weinglass and Patrick Jean-Joseph and 9th grader Camille Vecchione.

Parents will receive important information to assist them in keeping their children safe and strong. The PTA will provide guidelines as to acceptable ground rules for social gatherings. This will be done by two mailings - one to parents of children in grades 9 and 10 and another to parents of students in grades 11 and 12.

In addition, a parent's forum, "Dating, Drugs and the Social Scene," will take place on Wednesday, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school's multipurpose room.

An agent of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration will discuss club drugs and Diane Litterer of Prevention Links will lead a discussion of the ways in which parents may prevent the use of club drugs by their children. Liz Knodel-Gordon, the district's Substance Awareness Coordinator, will discuss alcohol and the coming prom season.

The community will become more aware of the prevention of substance abuse through their support of the Challenge Question. Community businesses will provide prizes and a consortium of several businesses has provided the funds used to mail information to parents.

The PTA has extended thanks to CASA (Community Against Substance Abuse) for its funding of the Challenge Question prize money.

Amy Seligman Receives Highest Honors

WESTFIELD - Amy Seligman, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Seligman of Westfield and a member of the Class of 2003 at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., earned highest honors during the fall semester.

Lenoir-Rhyne College Names Christine M. Brock To President's List

SCOTCH PLAINS - Christine Marie Brock of Scotch Plains was named to the President's List for the 2000 fall semester at Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, N.C.

Local Students Named To Fall Dean's List

East Stroudsburg University in East Stroudsburg, Pa. has announced that Julia L. Mc Millan of Westfield and Nicole Senatore of Scotch Plains have been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2000 semester.

Julia is a senior specializing in early childhood education, while Nicole is a freshman majoring in psychology.



RELAXING STRETCHES...Students at Jefferson Elementary School in Westfield chase away the winter blues with "Relaxation Recess." Led by Ellen Kaplow, the pupils enjoy a Yoga class which includes stretching, relaxation techniques and a story during their recess period.

Author Day Celebrated At Tamaques Elementary

WESTFIELD - Tamaques Elementary School hosted a visit on Wednesday, January 31, with children's author, David Wisniewski.

Mr. Wisniewski entertained the children with a "how to make" puppet show using an overhead projector, cut-outs and wax paper. He also showed the pupils step by step details about creating a book.

He explained that the process involves writing the story and following with black and white illustrations which turn into bright, colorful pages.

Mr. Wisniewski was born in Middlesex, England. His work was

represented in the 1995 Dreamweavers Exhibit, a traveling exhibit of illustrations from children's literature in the fantasy genre.

"The Wave of the Sea-Wolf" was named a Best Illustrated Book of the Year by *The New York Times*. "Elfwyn's Saga" was named a Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies by a joint committee of the National Council on the Social Studies and the Children's Book Council.

His other works include "The Warrior and the Wise Man," "Rain Player," "Sundiata," and "Lion King of Mali."

Union County College Posts President's List of Honors

CRANFORD - Union County College has announced the names of local pupils placed on the President's List for the fall 2000 semester.

These students include:
Scotch Plains
Jennifer J. Bauer, Gail F. Bronski,

Tripp Madsen Earns Dean's Award At Colgate University

Tripp Madsen, the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Peter Madsen, 2nd, is the recipient of the Dean's Award for academic excellence during the fall 2000 semester at Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y.

A member of the Class of 2004, Tripp graduated from The Taft School in Watertown, Conn. in 2000. He is a freshman at Colgate.

Jill A. Buonincontri, Bonnie L. Considine, Laura Dechant, Christopher DiFabio, Elizabeth Donaway, Stine Helbig, Jean T. Kellogg, Elizabeth O. Martinso, Kristin M. Meehan, Kriya J. Patel, Donnalynn Rump, Cesar M. Salinas, Lorraine Sleeper, Wendy L. Warwick, Lisa Williams, Robert A. Wilson, Marci B. Steinberg, My V. Tran.

Mountainside
Katherine Cullerton, Momy A. El Kfoury, Dawn Kizmann, Denise L. Shann.

Westfield
Dana M. Adams, Maria Andersson, Laura L. Ciarrocca, Darrin L. Coy, Marian Fritz, Dmitry I. Gazarian, Arthur D. Hausker, Maria Teresa Lopez, Karen McDonald, Slavica Pantelic, Eleanor G. Ralph, Ines Rauschenbach, Thomas Ryan, Melissa Stevright, Natasha A. Widows, Mike S. Weinstein.

Laura Sweeney Earns Dean's Award At Colgate Univ.

WESTFIELD - Laura Sweeney, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Sweeney of Westfield, is a recipient of the Dean's Award for academic excellence during the fall 2000 semester at Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y.

A member of the Class of 2001, Laura is a 1997 Westfield High School graduate. She is concentrating in biology at Colgate. She plans to attend medical school in the fall.

Christopher Schnakenberg Named to Dean's List

MOUNTAINSIDE - Mountainside resident Christopher Schnakenberg, a sophomore at Rutgers College, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2000 semester.

Andrew Allen Wintringham Earns Dean's List Status At East Carolina Univ.

WESTFIELD - East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C. revealed that Andrew Allen Wintringham of Westfield was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester.

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