

DECA Pupils Will Alert Middle School Pupils About Risks of Substance Abuse

SCOTCH PLAINS - During one of their brainstorming sessions, students in the DECA Chapter at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School decided to do more to inform younger students about the dangers and consequences of using drugs and alcohol.

As a result, DECA has, for the past two months, been planning a program of activities for eighth graders at both Park and Terrill Middle Schools.

Billed as "DECA's Day of Decisions," DECA, with the assistance of the school district's Substance Abuse Coordinator Liz Knodell-Gordon, has planned 10 workshop sessions at each school.

The workshops will focus on a variety of topics and problems that young people confront on almost a daily basis. Topics include the effects of drug and alcohol use, the dangers of "club drugs," confronting peer pressure, communicating with parents and adults, effects and decision to be made in teenage relationships, among others.

DECA has enlisted outside resources to run some of these workshops, including an expert in club drugs, adolescents recovering from drug addiction, a mother whose daughter's tragic death was caused by a drunk driver, and a representative from the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

DECA students themselves will run

four of the workshops involving peer pressure, teen relationships, communicating with adults, and the dangers of addictive drugs such as tobacco, alcohol and marijuana.

The students will present skits, a panel discussion, and just plain talk with the younger students on the decisions they are faced with. DECA seniors Tim Gander, Renee Zidonik and Eric Konzelman are chairpersons of the activity.

Tim said, "We are not going to the middle schools to tell the students what to do, or what not to do. We want to give them enough information so that they make the right decisions when faced

with these problems."

Ms. Knodell-Gordon also thought it was important that high schools students communicate these problems to middle school students.

Renee added, "We consider this to be a very important community service, because we all know every young person has to make choices, so we are hoping these workshops will convince the student to make the right choice."

The workshops will be held at Park Middle School on Thursday, February 8, and Terrill Middle School on Friday, February 9, between the hours of 8:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Westfield Education Assoc. To Award Scholarships

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Education Association (WEA) will award two \$1,000 scholarships to high school graduates.

Michael Seiler, President of WEA, will present the scholarships at Awards Night, Thursday, June 7, at Westfield High School (WHS).

The WEA Scholarship Committee and the Executive Council will select a member of the WHS Class of 2001 for this year's \$1,000 award.

The Barry Judd Memorial Scholarship will be presented to a WEA member's child who plans on continuing their education at an accredited institution of higher learning. Both scholarship applications are available at the Guidance Department at WHS and at WEA members respective schools throughout the district.

The deadline for both scholarships is Friday, March 30.

Scholarship applications will be evaluated on a variety of criteria including grades, SAT scores, involvement in school-based activities and community services. Applicants will also have an opportunity to express their personal opinions regarding education and technology.

Six finalists will be invited to a personal interview before the final selection.

Funds for these scholarships are raised by donations of the WEA members. Diana Collins is Chairperson of the WEA Scholarship and the Barry Judd Memorial Scholarship. Committee members include Dr. James Moriarty, Frances Trees, Janice Sheridan, Rosemary Gagliardi and Patricia Filia.

Univ. of Delaware Includes Area Pupils On Fall Dean's List

AREA - Westfield residents Maura Rose Burstein, Lauren Marie Castaldo, Laura Kathryn Dvorak and Sarah Nicole Ponzio, and Lauren A. Biedell of Scotch Plains have been named to the Dean's List at the University of Delaware for the fall 2000 semester.

Maura, a senior, is pursuing early childhood development. A junior, Lauren Castaldo is majoring in English. Laura, a sophomore, is focusing on geography. Sarah, a senior, is majoring in political science. Lauren Biedell, a senior, is studying leadership and consumer economics.

Colby College Names Elizabeth Schundler To Fall Dean's List

WESTFIELD - Elizabeth C. Schundler of Westfield has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Colby College in Waterville, Me. She is a first-year student and a graduate of Westfield High School.

Elizabeth is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Schundler of Westfield.

University News

Jonathan W. Jones, Andrea J. Maggi Earn Dean's List Recognition

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. recently revealed that Jonathan W. Jones of Westfield and Andrea J. Maggi of Scotch Plains have been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2000 semester.

Jonathan is a senior majoring in management, while Andrea is a senior focusing on electrical engineering and computer and systems engineering.

Katherine A. Egan Earns Dean's List Status at Colby

WESTFIELD - Katherine A. Egan, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Egan of Westfield, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Colby College in Waterville, Me.

Katherine is a junior majoring in English with a minor in education. She is also a graduate of Westfield High School.

Wake Forest Posts Names of Area Pupils On Fall Dean's List

WESTFIELD - Julie Catherine Iannazzone and Nicole Anne Panza, both of Westfield, have been named to the Dean's List at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C. Both students are freshmen.

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School District's Annual Report Now Available

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Public School District's 1999-2000 Annual Report has been mailed to every household in Westfield.

The brochure includes student and staff accomplishments, test scores and other factual information about the school district. It also contains an introduction by Superintendent of Schools Dr. William J. Foley.

Dr. Foley has noted that a good deal of the 1999-2000 school year was spent planning for accommodating the increased student population in Westfield. He also acknowledged the involvement and cooperation of the community in making the school district a success.

"I commend our students, parents, staff and community partners for recognizing the importance of both academic skills and life skills as valuable parts of education," stated Dr. Foley.

If anyone has not received a copy of the 1999-2000 annual report, please contact the School/Community Relations office at (908) 789-4463.

Sarah Sharpe Earns Academic Honor

WESTFIELD - Westfield resident Sarah Sharpe, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sharpe and a member of the Class of 2002 at Skidmore, earned honors during the fall semester.

Jonathan W. Jones Receives Degree From Rensselaer

WESTFIELD - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. has announced that Jonathan Woodruff Jones of Westfield received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Management in December.

Concepts & Thought

Nominations Welcomed For Philhower Award

WESTFIELD - President of the Rotary Club of Westfield and Superintendent of Schools Dr. William J. Foley has announced that Friday, March 2, is the deadline for nominations for the ninth annual Charles Philhower Fellowship award.

Letters of nomination are invited from interested citizens and Westfield public school staff members and should be addressed to: Charles Philhower Fellowship Committee of the Westfield Rotary Club, c/o Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 302 Elm Street, Westfield, 07090.

Nominations should specify ways in which the teacher has demonstrated outstanding teaching, interest in children and continued pursuit of professional growth.

The teacher must be a full-time elementary school teacher in Westfield. The Fellowship recipient is honored at a Rotary luncheon and receives a grant to further professional growth or to enhance classroom activities for students.

The award was instituted in 1993 by the Westfield Rotary Club to recognize the importance of teaching in the elementary grades and to honor Westfield Rotarian and School Superintendent Charles Philhower.

Mr. Philhower, who died in 1962, was Supervising Principal (Superintendent) of Westfield Public Schools for 30 years - from 1917 to 1947 - and was President of the Westfield Rotary Club in 1929-30. As Rotary President, he instituted the club's annual scholarship awards to graduating Westfield students.

Members of the Selection Committee will include two Rotarians, two elementary school principals and the immediate past Philhower fellow, Trista Pollard, fifth grade teacher at Tamaques Elementary School.

The 1999 fellowship went to Eva Morton, Washington Elementary School third grade teacher. The award winner in 1998 was Angela LaCarrubba, second grade teacher at Wilson Elementary School. In 1997, the Philhower award went to Jefferson Elementary School fourth grade teacher Claudia Andreski. Bette Tuthill, McKinley Elementary School fourth grade teacher, was named the 1996 Philhower Fellowship recipient. Carol Joyce, Washington School first grade teacher, received the award in 1995. The 1994 awardee was Carol A. Mastroianni, Franklin Elementary School first grade teacher.

The first Philhower Fellowship was presented to Susan Feldman Glick, a Special Education teacher at Tamaques School, in 1993.

In commenting on the award, Dr. Foley echoed the sentiments of fellow Rotarians when he said, "We believe the Philhower Fellowship is a fitting memorial to an educator who gave so much to the children of Westfield and to education in general."

Dr. Foley added, "We are grateful for the recognition the Rotary continues to give the teaching profession. I am always pleased with outstanding education is spotlighted; when honor is bestowed on an outstanding educator and when recognition is given to teachers."

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