



WELCOME TO SCHOOL...New Executive Director of the Westfield Adult School Louise Frankel, left, and Arrangements Coordinator Donna Dzury, pose for a photo before the fall semester gets underway on Monday, September 24.

Westfield Adult School to Start Semester With New Director

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Adult School's (WAS) fall semester will begin on Monday, September 24, with new course offerings and a new executive director.

Louise Frankel of Westfield replaces Carol O. Phelan, who retired from the position in May, after directing the school curriculum for eight years. Ms. Frankel holds a master's degree in organizational learning and instructional technologies from the University of New Mexico. She has also worked as an informational systems professional for several major insurance firms.

"Louise's organizational abilities, technical skills and training as an educator will help us expand the school's offerings to better serve our community," said WAS Board President Barbara Gigon.

Assisting Ms. Frankel as Arrangements Coordinator is Donna Dzury, the executive assistant to Westfield High School Principal Dr. Robert G. Petix.

According to Ms. Frankel, the WAS fall catalog offers more than 80 classes, featuring 20 new courses. These classes include techniques in Celtic healing, the basics of residential remodeling and a parenting course about using sign language to communicate with pre-verbal babies.

"I'm very excited about our line-up of classes," said Ms. Frankel. "We really have something for everyone." The fall catalog is currently being mailed to local libraries and to more than 41,000 homes in Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Mountainside, Clark, Garwood and Cranford. An on-line version of the catalog is offered at www.westfieldnj.com/adultschool.

The school is in session on Monday evenings at Westfield High School, 550 Dorain Road. New courses begin throughout the eight-week semester and meet for as few as one session to as many as eight.

Tuition fees vary by the course, but range from \$10 for such classes as "How to Pay For College: A Guide to Financial Aid" to \$151 for an outing to Manhattan to visit The Metropolitan Museum of Art and see the Tony Award-winning play *The Producers*.

Founded in 1938, the WAS is an independent, not-for-profit, voluntary organization, formed for the purpose of providing educational opportunities for people in Westfield and surrounding areas. The school receives no taxpayer monies and is

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Concepts & Thought

Back to School Nights Organized in Westfield

WESTFIELD - Parents and guardians of public school students in Westfield are invited to Back-to-School Nights scheduled on the following dates in September:

Tonight, Thursday, September 13
Franklin Elementary School (Kindergarten) - 7 p.m.; Washington Elementary School - Grades K-1, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 20
Franklin School (Grades 1-5) - 7:15 p.m.

Jefferson Elementary School - (Grades K-5) 7:30 p.m.

McKinley Elementary School - (K a.m. and Grades 1-3) 7 p.m.; (K p.m. and Grades 4-5) - 8:30 p.m.

Tamaques Elementary School - (Grades K-2) - 7:30 p.m.; (Grades 3-5) - 8:15 p.m.

Washington School - (Grades 2-5) - 7:30 p.m.

Wilson Elementary School - (Grades K-2) - 7 to 7:45 p.m.; (Grades 3-5) - 8 to 8:45 p.m.

Tuesday, September 25

Edison Intermediate School - 7 p.m.

Roosevelt Intermediate School - 7 p.m.

Thursday, October 4

October 4 - Westfield High School - 7:30 p.m.

UCC Recruitment Office Schedules Open House

CRANFORD - The Office of Recruitment at Union County College (UCC) will host an Open House on Monday, September 17, for students who decided at the last minute to take fall classes.

Prospective students are invited to UCC's Commons on the Cranford campus, 1033 Springfield Avenue, from 3 to 7 p.m. Late Start classes will commence on Monday, September 24, and this Open House will provide students the chance to apply and take placement tests in one day.

Students wishing to test must arrive by 3:30 p.m. and call in advance to reserve a place.

For test reservation or more information, please call (908) 709-7518.

Mental Illness Alliance Sets Education Class in Westfield

WESTFIELD - The Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Union County will sponsor the NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program specifically for families of persons diagnosed with serious mental illness.

The 12-week series of classes will begin in Westfield on Wednesday, September 19, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Westfield Y on 220 Clark Street.

The course will cover information about schizophrenia, mood disorders (bipolar disorder and major depression); panic disorder and obsessive compulsive disorder, coping skills such as handling crisis and relapse; basic information about medications; listening and communication techniques; problem-solving skills; recovery and rehabilitation; and self-care around worry and stress.

The curriculum has been written by an experienced family member and mental health professional and the course will be taught by NAMI-Union County family

member volunteers who have completed intensive training as course instructors.

The co-teachers for the Westfield area are Marilyn Goldstein and Mary-Jo Willemssen, Supervisor, Patient Support Services, of the Mount Carmel Guild Behavioral Healthcare division of Catholic Community Services in Newark.

"This course is a wonderful experience as it balances basic psychoeducation and skill-training with emotional support, self-care and empowerment," said Ms. Goldstein. "We hope that families with relatives who have a serious mental illness will take advantage of this unique opportunity."

The course is designed specifically for parents, siblings, spouses, teenage and adult children and significant others of persons with severe and persistent mental illness. The course is not appropriate for individuals who themselves suffer from one of the major mental illnesses.

The NAMI Family-to-Family Education course is free of charge. For more information or to register, please call Ms. Goldstein at (908) 806-3475 or Ms. Willemssen at (908) 233-0462 or leave a message on their voice mail at (908) 233-1628.

NAMI Union County is an affiliate of NAMI New Jersey, a statewide coalition of self-help support and advocacy groups, comprised of families, friends and individuals who are affected by mental illness. Through education, support and advocacy activities, NAMI Union County fulfills its mission to improve the quality of life of individuals who suffer from mental illness and their families.

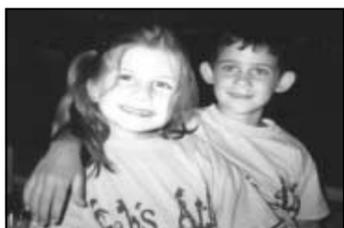
Quijano Completes Submarine Project

SCOTCH PLAINS - Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Ind. recently revealed that Scotch Plains resident Jonathan J. Quijano completed a project on submarine basics during the summer's Operation Catapult at the Institute.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Quijano of Scotch Plains, Jonathan is a student at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

During Operation Catapult, he was offered a hands-on experience, challenged to problem-solve in various areas of science and engineering, and had a preview of college life. He attended lectures, lived in a residence hall and had a roommate.

Another Noah's Ark Preschool Sails Into Westfield!



Westfield- Another Noah's Ark, has docked in Westfield! Conveniently located at 618 Central Ave. in Westfield; minutes from Clark, Cranford, Garwood, GSP and surrounding areas. Noah's Ark Country Day School is a 4,000 sq. foot facility that will accommodate approximately 100 children from ages 18 months through 11 years. The 4,000 sq. foot outdoor playground will be an added feature to this extraordinary new center! Noah's Ark philosophy is based on three principle goals. These are to help children develop self confidence, to impart a strong sense of community and to foster a true loving of learning. They provide a warm, nurturing and consistent environment where the children are encouraged to explore, make choices and gain independence.

Noah's Ark is committed to an overall program of early childhood development that not only respects, but also celebrates the individuality of each child. This additional location is presently accepting registrations for their Fall programs. Noah's Ark offers a challenging curriculum for preschool children ages 18 months to 5 years old. In addition, they will also be offering wrap around programs for school age children with after care to 6:30 pm. Full-day programs from 8:00am - 6:00pm. Half-day morning 8:00am - 12:00pm or afternoon 1:00pm - 5:00pm with early drop off & extended care options. Registration for Fall classes is now under way. Classes are filling quickly so don't miss the boat! For more information, or to make an appointment for a tour, please call (908) 232-7011.

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THE STUDENT VIEW

The weekly column written by local high school students

By ABIGAIL BRAMNICK
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

As I stroll through downtown Westfield on a Friday night, I see a group of teenagers standing around next to the telephones outside the Rialto Theatre. A girl about my age, 15 or 16, is leaning on one of the phones, smoking a cigarette, and talking to a boy.

Standing in the corner of an alleyway is a group of boys and girls who are smoking and look extremely bored. I think to myself, as I take another sip from my ice cold Mocha Frappachino, why does this town have so much activity during the day and absolutely nothing to do in the evening?

Then I realized why. Westfield is a great town with terrific stores and tasty restaurants, but when the clock strikes nine, teens start to party.

Where are they supposed to go? Very few stores are open down town so there is nothing to do. Kids want to hang out with their friends so they go downtown and end up walking around.

The police officers spend their entire evening telling us not to loiter on the street corners. I've spoken to several of my peers and asked them what they think about introducing a club for teens in Westfield. A lot of kids hang out downtown on Friday and Saturday nights, and a lot of cops have to tell them not to loiter on corners.

Tom Mutaffis, a senior at WHS said, "I think it's a good idea and it would probably make a lot of money. It also would get kids off the street and give kids something to do other than go to parties and do illegal things."

When there is no place to meet on Friday or Saturday night's kids are tempted to engage in illegal acts for thrills. If we could hang out at a teen club in town then we would get kids off the street and parents off the kid's backs.

The police department would not have to send so many officers to walk around downtown and kick people off the street corners. There wouldn't be as much drinking and drug use because teenagers would have something to do on weekends other than abuse illegal substances and get into trouble.

Yes, I know that there are various organizations that provide places for teens to gather and play games in Westfield, but not every high school student wants to do that on a Friday night. Teens want to dance to loud music played by a DJ, eat snack food, and drink soda.

The club should be open on the

weekends and during the summer. Only teenagers who are between the ages of 14 and 18 may attend. There should be a DJ who plays the current releases and has cool disco lights that shine on the dance floor. Supervision by police officers and adults will prevent alcohol or any other illegal substance into the club and the local authorities will handle any abusive patrons. There should be an admission fee or a membership card to help cover the expenses.

Kristina Lucerelli a 15 year old from WHS said, "I really think it would be a big success if they did put one in town."

There's no guarantee every teenager in the Town of Westfield will stop hurting themselves by using drugs or alcohol but there will be a major difference in the amount of kids who do.

Frame Graduates

West Virginia Univ.

SCOTCH PLAINS - Elizabeth Anne Frame, formerly of Scotch Plains and currently of Westfield, graduated Magna Cum Laude from West Virginia University.

Elizabeth earned a degree in English from the College of Arts and Sciences. While attending the University, she was inducted into two English honorary societies: Gamma Beta Phi and Sigma Tau Delta. She plans to obtain a master's degree in education and teach in the area.

Ross B. L. MacIntyre

Earns Degree at Colgate

SCOTCH PLAINS - Ross B. L. MacIntyre, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Euan MacIntyre of Scotch Plains, received a Bachelor of Arts Degree, Cum Laude, from Colgate University on Sunday, May 20.

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