

Concepts & Thought

Three Scholarships Awarded By WF Education Association

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Education Association (WEA) awarded \$3,000 in scholarships to the 2002 graduating class of Westfield High School. Diana Collins, Chairwoman of the WEA Scholarship Committee, presented the three grants during Awards Night on June 6 at Westfield High School.

Each year, the association recognizes applicants based on academic achievement, school activities and community service.

Priya Bhasin, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Bhasin, received the \$1,000 WEA Scholarship. An honor student, she will attend the University of Michigan in the fall.



Priya Bhasin

Priya has been active with the theater productions at the high school and played cello for the school orchestra. She also participated in the Spanish exchange program. Her community service included five years of volunteer hours at the Children's Specialized Hospital and People for Animals.

Elyse Goldweitz, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Goldweitz, also received a \$1,000 WEA Scholarship. A member of the National Honor Society, she is also recognized as a talented artist. Elyse designed and crafted an American Pride Bear in recognition of the victims from 9/11.

She participated in soccer, track and lacrosse at the high school. Her community service included working on behalf of her church for Habitat for Humanity. Elyse will attend Gettysburg College in the fall.

The Barry Judd Memorial Scholarship for \$1,000 was presented to Caitlin MacDonald. The grant is given in recognition of a distinguished teacher of foreign languages at Westfield High School from 1974 to 1992.

The grant is based on the ideals of Mr. Judd - a love for learning and a devotion to helping others. The award is given each year to a son or daughter of a member of the WEA.

Caitlin is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald MacDonald, a physical education teacher at Wilson Elementary School. She has been acknowledged as Academic and Athletic Student of the Month at Westfield High School. Besides studying Spanish and Italian, Caitlin has demonstrated leadership qualities as captain of field hockey and softball teams. Her determination and commitment to Westfield High School has been recognized this season. In the fall, Caitlin will attend Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison.



Elyse Goldweitz



Caitlin MacDonald

Funds for these scholarships are raised through the generosity of donations of the WEA membership.

This year's committee members included Rosemary Gagliardi of Washington Elementary School, Janice Sheridan of Edison Intermediate School, Fran Trees and Dr. James Moriarty, both of Westfield High School, and Ms. Collins of Jefferson Elementary School.



PROGRAMMED FOR SUCCESS...Yohko Ballan, a local computer consultant, recently visited seventh graders at Roosevelt Intermediate School in Westfield to discuss the qualifications and opportunities in the computer profession. Ms. Ballan's presentation was requested by Roosevelt Guidance Counselor Kim Meusel and arranged through the district's Sharing Talents and Skills program. The seventh graders hear presentations regarding various careers through the Career Talk Soup program that takes place during approximately two lunch periods per month.

Grant Presented to Benson By Education Administrators

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Association of Administrators and Supervisors (WAAS) has named Casey Benson, daughter of Marlysa Benson of Westfield and Mark Benson of New Providence, as the recipient of its annual scholarship.

The Association represents administrators, supervisors and department chairpersons in the Westfield Public Schools. The scholarship carries with it a \$1,000 award.

Casey, who will be pursuing a career in education, will attend Ithaca College. She has been involved in the Westfield High School Social Action Coalition, was elected co-captain of the freshman softball team, and in grades 10 and 11, Casey played varsity volleyball and lettered in her junior year. She was elected secretary of her sophomore class.

Casey has taught Sunday school since her freshman year and was awarded the "Outstanding Teacher Award" by her church.

Leslee Scheckman, Casey's Guidance Counselor, said, "When most people want to get away from the daily grind, they tend to go on vacation, play a sport, get involved in the arts and more. Casey, on the other hand, spends her time working with children. This is the activity that is most important to her and the one that gives her the most enjoyment. It is interesting to hear

Casey discuss all she has learned from her students. To me, that is an essential trait of being a good teacher... one who is willing to learn as well as teach."

Dr. Cas Jakubik, K-12 Guidance Supervisor and WAAS Scholarship Chairperson added, "Casey has proven herself both in and outside the classroom, and we look forward to her making a difference in the future as an educator."



SHE CAN DIG IT...Since last fall, Morristown-Bear eighth graders in Bill Lamson's Middle School science class have been digging in manure, shredded leaves and grass clippings as well as regularly aerating, charting moisture content and checking pH levels in an effort to create nutrient-rich soil. As the spring weather arrived, the pupils tested their compost, filling up garden boxes and planting seeds. Caitlin Thrower of Westfield, pictured, above, exchanges composting anecdotes with Mr. Lamson.

McDermott Awarded For Appalachian Work

WESTFIELD - Delbarton School in Morristown announced that junior Bryan McDermott of Westfield was recognized and awarded for his work in the Appalachian Project, a campus ministry program.

University News NJIT Places Local Pupils On Spring Dean's List

AREA - The New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) recently announced that Westfield, Scotch Plains and Berkeley Heights students have been placed on the Dean's List for the spring semester of 2002.

Two Westfield residents, Vinh Dang and Aleksander Petersen have been named to the Dean's List. Vinh is majoring in electrical engineering, while Aleksander is studying industrial engineering.

Scotch Plains residents Caryn Elsie, a management major, and Paul Kroszczyński, a computer science major, have been named to the list.

Four Berkeley Heights pupils, Seung Lee, Benjamin Bakas, Hicham Hifdi and Linda Ammitzbold, have also been named to the list. Seung and Benjamin are majoring in architecture, Hicham is majoring in computer engineering, and Linda is majoring in management.

James Madison Places Winkler on Dean's List

SCOTCH PLAINS - Scotch Plains resident Jonathan M. Winkler has been placed on the Dean's List for the spring 2002 semester at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va.

Bucciarelli Awarded From State CPA Group

WESTFIELD - Donald J. Bucciarelli, a Westfield resident and a student at St. Peter's College, was awarded a \$3,000 accounting scholarship from the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJSCPA) during a ceremony held in April.

The grant is part of the NJSCPA's annual scholarship program, which this year, awarded more than \$275,000 to 73 New Jersey high school and college students.

"This award is certainly a gratifying personal accomplishment," said Donald. "It is even a greater honor to gain recognition as an accounting student on the state level."

Katherine Riley Earns Dean's List Recognition

WESTFIELD - Katherine Riley of Westfield is among the 392 students who achieved the honor of Dean's List for the spring 2002 semester at Mount St. Mary's College & Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md.

Katherine is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Riley of Westfield.

Dean's List Recognition Earned by Elizabeth Dixon

WESTFIELD - Mount St. Mary's College & Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. has revealed that Elizabeth Dixon of Westfield, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bartholomew Dixon of Westfield, was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2002 semester.

Valerie Wicks Serves In Student Government

WESTFIELD - Valerie Wicks of Westfield is a member of the Representative Assembly (RA), the Bates College student government in Lewiston, Me.

The RA is a forum for all students to voice their opinions and affect actions relative to issues of campus life. The group is also charged with the allocation of the student activities budget and the appointment of students to all student and faculty committees.

A sophomore Dean's List student, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Wicks of Westfield. Valerie is a 2000 graduate of Westfield High School. She is a member of the women's field hockey team and was named a Dana Scholar in 2001 for academic excellence and leadership.

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