

Quackenbush to Attend Summer Computer Camp

WESTFIELD - Adric Quackenbush, 13, of Westfield will spend the summer attending the National Computer Camp at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn. Established in 1977, the camp will give Adric the opportunity to enjoy small group instruction on PC or Macintosh computers. There is also a sports camp, which includes soccer, tennis, basketball and swimming, which Adric will enjoy.

Bucciarelli Named To Spring Dean's List

WESTFIELD - New Jersey City University in Jersey City has reported that Westfield resident Elizabeth Bucciarelli is among 19 Union County residents to be named to the Dean's List for the 2002 spring semester.

City University Places Horwitz on Dean's List

SCOTCH PLAINS - Scotch Plains resident Kenneth Horwitz has been placed on the spring 2002 Dean's List for academic excellence at New Jersey City University in Jersey City. He is among 19 Union County residents to receive this honor.



AIDING OTHERS...Dara Silverman, 11, and Christiana Ricciuti, 11, both fifth graders at Franklin Elementary School in Westfield, presented a check for \$1,055.72 to the Family Connection of Orange. The monies were raised by the school store, which is run by the fifth grade class. The Family Connection is a non-profit, private agency, which will use the donation to buy supplies for under-privileged children.

Dean's List Pupils Named At University of Delaware

AREA - The University of Delaware in Newark, Del. recently revealed the names of students placed on the Dean's List for the spring 2002 semester.

The list included Westfielders Lauren Kathryn Dvorak, a senior majoring in geography, Jason Stephen Lemberg, a senior majoring in criminal justice, and Daniel Ross Rock, a sophomore focusing on hotel and restaurant management.

The roster also featured Janis Lane Acampora, a senior majoring in biological sciences, Ryan Daniel Hahner, a junior focusing on athletic training, and Adena Plesmid, a junior majoring in accounting.

Fanwood residents Carla

Francesca, a junior majoring in early childhood development and Marisa Jean Melendez, a sophomore majoring in elementary teacher education, were also placed on the list.

Fairfield Univ. Earns Academic Recognition

WESTFIELD - Edward Hogan, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hogan of Westfield, was placed on the Dean's List for the 2001-2002 academic year at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Conn.

A graduate of Westfield High School, Edward is majoring in computer engineering. He expects to graduate in May of 2005.

Ithaca College Announces Names of Spring Graduates

WESTFIELD - Westfield residents were included among the more than 1,327 graduates and their invited guests who attended Ithaca College's 106th Commencement Exercises on May 18.

Lisa Feldman received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from the School of Humanities and Sciences. She was a chosen presenter in her discipline during the 2002 Whalen Academic Symposium.

A graduate of Westfield High School, Lisa is a permanent Westfield resident.

Abigail O'Neill graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Television-Radio from the Park School of Communications. She had a minor in Spanish and a concentration in Advertising/Public Relations.

Abigail was previously inducted into both the Oracle and Phi Kappa Phi national honor societies. A graduate of Westfield High School, she is also a permanent Westfield resident.

Beth Rubel earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology from the School of Health Sciences and Hu-

Niver Receives Degree At Univ. of California

WESTFIELD - Genghis Niver, a 1998 graduate of Westfield High School and the son of Dr. and Mrs. Edip Niver of Westfield, graduated from the University of California at Berkeley this spring.

Genghis majored in Molecular and Cell Biology and delivered the commencement speech to the Graduating class on May 24.

He will continue his studies at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School this fall.

Villanova University Places Laurie Hogan On Spring Dean's List

WESTFIELD - Westfield High School graduate Laurie Hogan has been named to the Dean's List for the 2001-2002 school year at Villanova University in Villanova, Pa.

Laurie is majoring in communications. She expects to graduate in May of 2003.

Laurie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hogan of Westfield.



Parents Must Trust Kids To Make Correct Choices

By ADAM TURNER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

As high school approached its final furlong and college came into the limelight, it became harder and harder to not become apathetic to town issues, mainly because they will not concern me in the upcoming years.

However, there is one topic arising in Westfield High School (WHS) which has become a thorn in my side, college or no college.

Parents had issued a petition to abolish the Open Lunch Policy that WHS employs. By signing this petition, these parents, blindly concerned by stories they have heard about a pair of students going home to have sex or a group of friends

using their home to do drugs instead of going to Hershey's Deli for lunch, tried to hold on to that last ounce of power without realizing what they are ruining for so many students.

The fact of the matter is, each parent who signed the petition, in essence, said they have no confidence in the values and morals they have instilled in their children. Each parent signed something admitting that they can't trust their children to act for themselves and that administrators and parents must confine each student to a closed building all day.

Instead, students would be corralled from class to class and never be let out of sight of anyone under the age of 22, because if they are, who knows, they could slip into an empty room to meet their boyfriend or a quick smoke with their buddies. I laugh at this as I type it. Doesn't anyone else see the problem in what this group of parents is trying to do to the student population?

I am under the impression that parents want to raise children to be able to live on their own and make the best choices for them. If this is so, we must use high school as a stepping-stone for this learning process. Yes, there might be an occasional mistake along the way, but it's all a part of life.

Open Lunch, a unique policy WHS has in place compared to other schools, is one way that we distinguish how our kids are raised that differs from other towns. And the last time I checked the state report cards and percentage of graduating students that go to college from Westfield, the town isn't doing too badly.

No, Open Lunch doesn't create a 1400 SAT score, but it is one way in which WHS has enhanced the learning experience to be more unique, not only in the classroom but out.

Another question to ask these parents is, what do you do on the weekends; lock your children up in their rooms so they are never out of your sight? Because if you don't then you must realize you are giving them that opportunity to do the things you are trying to prevent.

You mustn't shelter WHS students because of your insecurities, but rather guide your children the best way you can and hope they make the right decisions because of the values you have given them.

And here's a wake up call to these parents, in no more than two or three years your kids will be living by themselves, making their own choices every day. Protecting them from their own decision-making now is no way to prepare them for the real world that lies out there.

The attempt to banish students from going out to lunch is an ignorant and futile one. What lessons are being taught to the children by trapping them in a school all day? Only that they must be controlled, because their own consciences will abandon them and every kid will mess up. Is this the lesson we want our kids to take to college?

man Performance. She minored in Gerontology.

A graduate of Westfield High School, Beth is a permanent Westfield resident.

Lacey Shulman was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Science, leading to a Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy from the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance.

A graduate of Westfield High School, Lacey is also a permanent Westfield citizen.

JCC Senior Artists Place First in County Exhibit

SCOTCH PLAINS - Participants in the Senior Adult Art Class at the Wilf Jewish Community Campus of the Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey recently entered their works in the Union County Senior Art Contest and Exhibit.

The event is sponsored annually by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Lillie Bryen is the instructor for the Senior Adult Art Class. The JCC is located at 1391 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains.

Rose Gelfman of Westfield, who began painting just one year ago, took first place in the acrylic, non-professional category for "Self-Portrait."

Miriam Rotmensch took first place in the pastel, non-professional category with "Flowers in Vase," a floral still life with multiple layers of colors. The Elizabeth resident has been working in dif-

Concepts & Thought

Mary Ball Cappio Honored for Educational Achievements by Scotch Plains-Fanwood PTA

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA) of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS), Park Middle School and Evergreen Elementary School honored Mary Ball Cappio with the National PTA Honorary Life Membership Award this spring.

The award was conferred on Mrs. Cappio for her exceptional level of commitment to advocacy for children and youth in education, health, safety, legislation and home life.

Mrs. Cappio has been involved with the PTA and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district since her children entered elementary school. She has served in many capacities, including PTA President at Evergreen School, Park Middle School and SPFHS.

Most recently, Mrs. Cappio held the position of President of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood PTA Council.

She has volunteered as a parent representative on many school district committees over the years, including the Strategic Planning Committee, School Budget Committee and other panels.

In presenting the award, SPFHS PTA President Sharon Machrone stated, "Mary has extraordinary enthusiasm, energy and effectiveness in all that she undertakes for the children of our district."

Ms. Machrone added, "Not only have the children benefited, but so have their parents, and all of us who have worked with her over the years. Mary is a constant source of information, ideas and encouragement."

The National PTA Honorary Life Membership Award includes a monetary contribution made in Mrs.

Syracuse Gives Degrees To Long and Passucci

AREA - The College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y. has revealed that Kristen Passucci of Scotch Plains and Craig Long of Westfield graduated during the 148th Commencement Ceremony on May 12. Kristen received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Speech Communications. Craig earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Painting.



FINALIST...Samantha Cruz, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cruz of Westfield, has been selected as a finalist in the Pre-Teen New Jersey Scholarship and Recognition Program to be held from August 16-18 at the Hilton in Parsippany. Pre-Teen New Jersey is a by-invitation only Scholarship and Recognition event involving young ladies 7 to 12 years of age based on their school academic records, awards and honors won and/or their participation in outside activities.

Spring Dean's List Posted By University of Scranton

AREA - The University of Scranton in Scranton, Pa. recently reported the names of area students placed on the Dean's List for the 2002 spring semester.

Katherine E. Fromtling, a senior majoring in environmental science, was named to the list. She is a Westfield resident.

Joanna E. Garibaldi, a junior focusing her studies in early childhood



COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION...Presenting the National Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) Life Membership Award to Mary Ball Cappio, pictured, left to right, are: Diana Fusco, Evergreen Elementary School PTA, Celeste Poher, Park Middle School PTA, and Sharon Machrone, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) PTA. Dr. David Heisey, SPFHS Principal, is standing to the right of Mrs. Cappio.

Cappio's name. The contribution becomes part of the National PTA Endowment Fund, which provides funding to further the PTA purpose and mission and to help strengthen its ability to serve children and youth as the largest advocacy organization in the world.

A Scotch Plains resident, Mrs.

Cappio resides in the township with her husband, Philip. They have three daughters, Moira, a recent Boston College graduate, Claire, a junior at Loyola College and Regina, a 2002 graduate of SPFHS, who plans to attend Villanova University in the fall.

Mrs. Cappio is employed by the Link Community School in Newark.



INSPIRING AUTHOR...Dan Gutman, author of children's books, visited Wilson Elementary School in Westfield in late spring. Mr. Gutman entertained the children with stories about his life, and successes and failures as an author. He encouraged children to persevere no matter how difficult the path to success may be. The author visit is an annual event sponsored by the school's Parent Teacher Association. Pictured, above, Mr. Gutman poses with second grader Daniel Wolf.

Degree Recipients Reported By Rider University Officials

AREA - Rider University in Lawrenceville celebrated its 137th Commencement Exercises on May 17, with several local residents receiving their degrees.

Westfield resident Jodi Baker earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education/Psychology.

Scotch Plains resident Andrea Busch received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism.

Marc Jacobs of Scotch Plains was awarded a Bachelor of Science in

Business Administration, with a concentration in Finance.

Scotch Plains resident Rinna Liss also earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She concentrated in Marketing/Business.

Melanie Mele of Scotch Plains received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education/Communication.

Melissa Parisi of Scotch Plains earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications.

Lafayette College Reveals Spring Quarter Dean's List

AREA - Gladstone Hutchinson, Dean of Studies at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., recently announced

the names of local students placed on the 2002 spring semester Dean's List.

Westfield pupils Elizabeth McKeon and Robyn Novick of the Class of 2003, Julie Phelan of the Class of 2005 and Miriam Hahneb of the Class of 2004 have all been placed on the academic roster.

Scotch Plains residents Michael Milberger of the Class of 2002 and Lauren Schwartz of the Class of 2003 were also named to the list.

Fanwood resident and Class of 2005 pupil Matthew Metzger has also been placed on the roster.

Schmidt Reappointed as Trustee of Bar Foundation

Dr. Maria Schmidt, supervisor of social studies for Westfield Public Schools, has been re-appointed a trustee of the New Jersey State Bar Foundation, an organization dedicated to promoting law-related education and giving all New Jersey residents a basic understanding of the legal system.

Dr. Schmidt also serves on the Foundation's Program Development, Conflict Resolution and Law-Related Education committees.

An adjunct professor of education at Seton Hall University, Dr. Schmidt has taught graduate courses in "Collaborative Learning," "Elementary Social Studies Methods," "Secondary Social Studies Methods" and "School Law." She was a member of the Jersey Department of Education's Social Studies Core Curriculum Content Standards Frameworks Taskforce, and is a scoring director for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

In addition, Dr. Schmidt is a member of the Teacher Assessment Development Team for Social Studies-History Certification for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

She also serves as an Advanced Placement Consultant to the College Board and is a workshop leader for "Building Success" Teacher Training Workshops.

Dr. Schmidt earned a Bachelor of Arts and a masters degree from Montclair State University and a juris doctor from Seton Hall University School of Law. Dr. Schmidt is a resident of Readington Township.

Founded in 1958, the New Jersey State Bar Foundation is the educational and philanthropic arm of the New Jersey State Bar Association. The Bar Foundation's mission is to promote public understanding of the law through a free, comprehensive public education program. Among its activities, the Foundation, established in 1958, conducts seminars and conflict resolution training, publishes materials, operates a videotape loan library and speakers bureau, and coordinates elementary, middle and high school mock trial competitions. For more information about the Foundation's programs and publications, visit us online at www.njsbf.org or call 1-800-FREE-LAW.