

## WF's PTC Is In Full Swing With Start of School Year

WESTFIELD - The Parent-Teacher Council (PTC) of the Westfield Public Schools is in full operation, meeting monthly with Superintendent of Schools Dr. William Foley to discuss school issues.

The PTC serves as an umbrella organization of all the schools' parent-teacher-student organizations, meeting twice a month to share ideas, interests and news about each school.

Mary Thompson is the PTC President, with Vice President Julia Tarr, Treasurer Midori Jenkins, Recording Secretary Carol Fahrenthold and Corresponding Secretary Lori Friedman rounding out the PTC Board.

The PTO, PTA or PTSO co-presidents of Westfield's nine schools each represent their school on the PTC.

Parents also volunteer to join committees on the PTC, such as Educa-

tional Studies, Budget Task Force, Special Education, Scholarship and others.

Regular participants at the PTC meetings include Board-of-Education President Anne Riegel and board Vice President Ginny Leiz. Topics such as school policies, district budget and PTO/PTA-initiated student activities are discussed with Dr. Foley and the board representatives.

"It's important to have this two-way communication," said Dr. Foley. "At the PTC meetings, we have the opportunity to hear the good news and the concerns that are perceived by parents in our schools through their representatives. At the same time, the presidents hear what decisions are being made by the Board of Education. It's a very helpful process for all concerned."



ALL'S FAIR...Franklin children, grades K-5, gear up with excitement for the school's annual Pumpkin Fair.

## Local H.S. Students Donate For Hurricane Katrina Relief

EDISON - High school students and cousins Sahil Zubair of Scotch Plains and Madiha Aziz of Woodbridge, both students of the Wardlaw-Hartridge School, got together right after Hurricane Katrina struck to do some good. "We just wanted to do something," said freshman Sahil.

Madiha, a sophomore, agreed that they didn't want to remain passive, so they contacted Rhona Eserner, Interim Head of their Upper School, to ask if they could form a committee to mobilize the school into taking some sort of charitable action.

Heads of the three divisions of the school met with student council officers and advisers to organize the multi-faceted project.

The first project involved the entire student body donating and compiling Health Care Kits comprised of personal care and hygiene items, including a comb, nail file, towel, wash cloth, toothbrush, toothpaste and bandages.

Sahil expressed his pleasure at the number of kits that were donated. The nurse's office was overflowing with the hundreds of donated kits that were assembled by students. Florise Newton, the school nurse, delivered the kits to her local United Methodist Women's Organization in Plainfield for distribution to the Gulf Coast.

Throughout the next few months, bake sales will be held on a rotating basis by each division of the school to help raise money and compassionate awareness of the devastation. At the school's Fall Fair, taking place on Saturday, October 22, each division will be selling items to raise money for the cause. The all-day fair is open to the community and will feature sporting events, games and crafts for the children, theme baskets, a boutique of quality items for sale and a sit-down luncheon.

For more information on the Fall Fair, please call the school at (908) 754-1882 or visit the school's website at [www.whschool.org](http://www.whschool.org).

## Improvements Continue At High-School Auditorium

WESTFIELD - Since September 1, more than a mile of conduit for electrical wires has been installed above and below the Westfield High School (WHS) auditorium in order to make way for electrical wiring. The wiring will be needed for the lighting and sound upgrade that are among the final improvements that will transform the 50-year old auditorium into a modern venue for drama, musicals, concerts and assemblies.

The 6,000 feet of metal piping, installed in the basement as well as above the ceiling of the auditorium, is the first stage of the electrical upgrade. Beginning October 14, wires will be pulled through these conduits and a console cabinet for the soundboard equipment will be constructed. The amount of spotlight platforms will be doubled, with four instead of the previous two. Lighting will also be added over the orchestra pit area.

Lighting equipment will be delivered and installed the week of October 21 with the audio system installed

by the middle of November. Business Administrator Robert Berman expects that testing of all the new equipment will be completed by November 25, in time for the WHS drama, *Ghetto*, which will be performed December 8, 9 and 10. The drama is based on a diary written in Lithuania during the Holocaust.

The lighting and sound upgrades in the auditorium are part of a 2000 public bond referendum, which funded WHS's science wing and capital improvements to the existing building. In the summer of 2004, 1100 new seats, including appropriate handicap seating areas, were installed in the auditorium. A new handicap access ramp into the auditorium on the Rahway Avenue side of the building was built and all new flooring was laid on the main auditorium floor and in the balcony.

The final phase of auditorium improvements is estimated to take place at the end of the school year, with the installation of air conditioning coming in the summer of 2006.



WEAVING WORDS ON THE WEB...Teachers throughout the Westfield public schools participated in web-page training on Columbus Day. Fifth-grade teacher Michael Chodroff (standing) is the turnkey instructor at Tamaques School, where he assisted teachers (left to right) Shirley Partelow, Michele Moise, Chris Bondira and Marie Apuzzo.

## WF School Teachers Attend Staff In-Service

WESTFIELD - On Columbus Day, while the Westfield public schools were closed for classes, teachers became the students behind the desks. All the teachers in the district participated in various professional workshops. Many attended workshops in web-page design to learn how to create their own teacher's pages on the district's new website: [www.westfieldnj12.org](http://www.westfieldnj12.org).

Guest speaker Jay McTighe, an educational consultant who has published books and articles in a number of leading journals on assessment, led workshops on differentiated instruction. His topic of discussion was: "The use of big ideas and essential questions to develop authentic learning experiences for students." Teachers in each elementary grade level came with their own units of study from the Westfield curriculum to relate to his theories.

Music and art teachers attended special workshops held at the Morris Museum on painting and musical machines. Counselors and paraprofessionals were provided training on the topic of social skills for individuals with Asperger's Syndrome and

related pervasive developmental disorders. Jed Baker, a nationally renowned psychologist, behaviorist and author, conducted these sessions. Academic supervisors and teachers in the district also served as facilitators in several workshops.

Superintendent of Schools William Foley, who observed the in-service training sessions held in Westfield, said, "Staff development continues to be a priority in the Westfield Public Schools. We not only provide training for our new teachers but also offer continued professional development for all our staff, resulting in effective teaching methods and productive learning in the classroom."

### Students Volunteer At Susquehanna

AREA - First-year students at Susquehanna Christopher Doremus and David Rimkus experienced the value of helping others during their first week on campus.

On Saturday, August 27, more than 500 students, faculty and staff, including university President L. Jay Lemons, participated at one of 26 volunteer project sites in Selinsgrove and surrounding communities.

The event, SU S.E.R.V.E. (Susquehanna University Students Explore Regional Volunteer Experiences), is intended to give students the opportunity to gain a sense of connectedness to the Susquehanna community while working with peers.

Christopher is a graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and the son of Bruce and Donna Doremus. David is a graduate of Westfield High School and the son of Nancy and Walter Rimkus.

### Announcement Students Fundraise For Hurricane Victims

SCOTCH PLAINS - Students Concerned for the Needy, a large club of volunteer students in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, has been doing all it can to set up fundraisers and donations for the victims of the recent storms that have ravaged the Gulf Coast. The biggest fundraiser is set for tonight. The Hurricane Katrina/Rita Relief Benefit will broadcast live from the high-school gym on Channel 34 (Scotch Plains TV) from 6 to 10 p.m. It involves a telethon hotline that will be open the entire night, live music, food, prizes and a student vs. faculty volleyball game.

SCN's immediate goal is to ensure that the entire community is aware of this event and will show its support, whether it be by attending or by donating via hotline.

### Anita O'Neal Named NAPSA Board Trustee

WESTFIELD - The National Association of Pupil Services Administrators (NAPSA) has selected Westfield High School (WHS) Special Education Supervisor Anita O'Neal as a trustee on its executive board. Ms. O'Neal will begin her three-year term effective Sunday, January 1, 2006.

The board selects only two trustees per year. Ms. O'Neal was chosen based on her demonstrated leadership in the field of student services.

"Ms. O'Neal represents an important voice in education. She is the consummate advocate for student learning and a valued member of the Westfield High School community," said WHS Principal Dr. Robert Petix.

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Saturday, November 12, 2005 9:30 a.m. Registration 9:45 a.m. Presentation 10:15 - 11 a.m. "Meet the Faculty" & Tours



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### PTO Pumpkin Fair Slated For Saturday

WESTFIELD - The Franklin Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will hold its annual Pumpkin Fair on Saturday, October 22, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Roosevelt Intermediate School, located at 301 Clark Street in Westfield. It will take place rain or shine. Proceeds from the Pumpkin Fair will support the PTO and be used for the benefit of Franklin School and its students.



Anuradha Lin Chaddah, MD, JD, MPH

has joined the practice of  
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Dr. Chaddah specializes in  
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Dr. Chaddah previously trained and practiced at  
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## Dr. Michael A. Dill, D.M.D.

is having an  
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celebrating his dental practice

Saturday, October 22, 2005  
2 to 5pm

1776 Martine Avenue  
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076  
Please call: 908-889-8382

The Wardlaw-Hartridge School presents  
**FALL FAIR and OPEN HOUSE**  
Saturday, October 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
1295 Inman Avenue • Edison, NJ

- Holiday Boutique featuring Longaberger, Pampered Chef, jewelry, handbags, artwork, home decor, gourmet food and fun stuff for kids.
- A Giant 50/50 Raffle, plus a Tricky Tray auction of specialty theme baskets filled with goodies such as an iPod nano and sports tickets.
- An elegant indoor luncheon, "Un D jeuner   Paris" with French cuisine prepared by Chef Daniel Palumbo, a Culinary Institute of America graduate who externed under famed Chef Daniel Boulud.
- Robert Smith of Westfield Antiques will offer appraisals of antiques from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (No jewelry, stamps or coins).
- Upper and Middle School Club Booths, Alumni Tent, baked goods, children's games, crafts, and various sporting events!

Tours of the Wardlaw-Hartridge campus available from 9 a.m. to noon

For more information or directions, please call (908) 754-1882, x 155 or visit [www.whschool.org](http://www.whschool.org)  
Presented by The Parents' Association of The WH School and the Admission Office

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