

Roosevelt Announces First Marking Period Honor Roll

WESTFIELD—Roosevelt Intermediate School Principal Stewart Carey announced that the following seventh and eighth grade students were named to the first marking period honor roll for the 2006-2007 school year at Roosevelt. They are:

- 7th Grade Distinguished**
- Edward Allen
 - Alana Basil
 - Zachary Bebel
 - Madeline Chandler
 - Sarah Chandler
 - Gabrielle Cruz
 - Allison Faktor
 - Rory Fitzpatrick
 - Victoria Gagliano
 - Caroline Gelinne
 - William Geoghegan
 - Zoe Greenburg
 - Kelsey Hall
 - Caitlin Hering
 - Nick Hering
 - Alexandra Hoffman
 - Taylor Ingber
 - Katharine Jaruzelski
 - Alexandra Jason
 - Kaitlyn Johnson
 - Kelly Kalis
 - Elizabeth Kuehn
 - Dara Levy
 - Thomas Lutz
 - Richard Malacrea
 - Katie Marino
 - Cali Mazzara
 - Marc Mazzucco
 - Peter Mebane
 - Kavita Mehta
 - Amanda Mongiove
 - Stephanie Olson
 - Olivia Pecora
 - Keith Peterson
 - Gabriella Pirrone
 - Brian Pollock
 - Julia Queller
 - Patrick Reilly
 - Henry Ritter
 - Megan Roth
 - Charles Scott
 - Jessica Sipe
 - Stephanie Tepper
 - Alex Turitz
 - Brian Vander Schaaf
 - Victoria Wang
 - Michael Woods
 - Katherine Yamano
 - Jacob Ziff

- 7th Grade Honor Roll**
- Alison Antonelli
 - Grace Antonelli
 - Arjun Asija
 - Meghan Bachmann
 - Eunbyool Back
 - Emily Bailey
 - Sam Baldwin
 - Loren Ball
 - Mia Ballan
 - Tara Bange
 - Daniel Berke
 - Caroline Bertoni
 - Joy Binder
 - Alexander Bond
 - Markian Borkowsky
 - Morgan Bowen
 - Connor Burslem
 - Alexandra Caggiano
 - Eleanor (Ellie) Callinan
 - Nicholas Canavan
 - Katherine Chan
 - Robert Ciardullo
 - Emily Clauss
 - Sarah Collins
 - Rebecca Daaleman
 - Jonathan David
 - Alexandra Davidson
 - Sydney Doskow
 - Patrick Dyer
 - Max Edelsalt
 - Caroline Ehrhardt
 - Samantha Ellner
 - Nicholas Ertman
 - Katie Fazio
 - Andrew Felix
 - Abraham Fertig-Cohen
 - Richard Fletcher
 - Gregory Flood
 - Katherine Fox
 - Erika Freeland
 - Sarah Friedman
 - Christopher Froelich
 - Samantha Furst
 - Brittany Gallagher
 - Rebecca Ganz
 - Alec Garrity
 - Christopher Gereckens
 - Alex Goldschmidt
 - Alexander Graf
 - Sabrina Greene
 - Emily Gretskey
 - Kendall Hagan
 - Brennan Haley
 - Kelly Higgins
 - Mathew Huff
 - Erica Jakub
 - Patrick Johnson
 - Kurt Kowalski
 - Marilyn Kowalski
 - Eric Kozlowski
 - Kayla Krasnoo
 - Vivian Lee
 - Analisa Lopez
 - Carolyn Maguire
 - Thomas Malley
 - Max Mancini
 - Anna Margolis
 - Nicole Marques
 - Finbar Martinson
 - Erica May
 - Joseph McDonald
 - Hannah Millen
 - Emily Miller
 - Julian Mongiove
 - Katie Morris
 - Jessica Morse
 - Julianne Mucci
 - Sarah Murphy
 - Lucas Nugent
 - Caroline O'Connor
 - Mary Janie O'Connor
 - Richard O'Connor
 - Brendan Oster
 - Kevin Oster
 - Sarah Panayiotou
 - Audrey Peterson
 - Emma Polini
 - Sarah Ramire
 - Jack Rickles
 - Hana Rood
 - Madeline Rosenberg
 - Sam Rosenburgh
 - Alexa Rothenberg
 - Alexandra Rubin
 - Jack Santangelo
 - Rebecca Sarkos
 - Abigail Sawers
 - Kate Schell-Sheehan
 - Casey Schoger
 - Geoffrey Scognamiglio
 - Brendan Seery
 - Kayla Seigelstein
 - Sara Shields
 - Kendra Simcox
 - Rebecca Skowron
 - Emily Smith
 - Mercedes Smith
 - Samantha Sterba
 - Rebecca Tunis
 - Tyler Varian
 - Brandon Vassallo
 - Christopher Walsh
 - Thomas Walsh
 - Peter Wanfried

- Michael Kalimtzis
- Nicoletta Kalos
- Jenna Karnofsky
- Ashley Kattak
- Lawrence Keating
- Nicholas Knepper
- Caroline Zee
- Hannah Weeks
- Aimee Wenta
- Alexander Williams
- Kieran Windorf
- Daniel Wolf
- Ross Workman
- Matthew Hartzell
- Alyssa Hatch
- Alexandra Hawkins
- Lucas L. Hudelson
- Nikki Koll
- Hannah Kronick
- Emily Mack
- Jessica Manna
- Katherine McKinley
- Shannon Mooney
- Melissa Morawski
- Christopher Morrissey
- Charlotte Murtishaw
- Priyanka Nayer
- Christopher Neylan
- Emma Partridge
- Eric Rackear
- Rachel Rickles
- Jenna Sharkey
- Caitlin Storck
- Nathaniel Suri
- Margot Tishberg
- Madison Weist
- Jeffrey Yang
- Timothy Younger

- 8th Grade Distinguished**
- Jenelle Abbattista
 - Astrid Adriaens
 - Victoria Aloupis
 - Mark Androconis
 - Alissa Anzevino
 - Kerry Austin
 - Jane Blatt
 - Alison Bimbaum
 - Adrian Bizzaro
 - Michael Bluffield
 - Robert Bunting
 - Peter Cozzi
 - Rebecca Delafuente
 - Meghan C Dunn
 - Casey Federbusch
 - Danielle Fields
 - Daniel Fitzpatrick
 - Emma Foley
 - Emma Franks
 - Sarah A Frantz
 - Katherine Frega
 - Georgia Gleason
 - Emily B Goldstein
 - Joseph Greenspan
 - Timothy Younger

- 8th Grade Honor Roll**
- Nia Ali
 - John Allen
 - MacKenzie Anderson
 - Zachary N. Archambault
 - Kylie K Bangs
 - Ethan Barnes
 - Zina Bazarsky
 - Chloe Birkenhath
 - Taylor Brand
 - Kathryn Bullek
 - Emily Chan
 - Sean Clark
 - Samantha Costello
 - Sarah Crawford
 - Matthew Curry
 - Lauren Darchi
 - McManus Dolan
 - Bruce Dunnan
 - Daniel Eliades
 - Nicole Enclerico
 - Joakin Eriksson
 - Catherine M Filipkowsk
 - Colin Fitzhenry
 - Michael Fleschler
 - Michael Foley
 - Alexandra Frankel
 - John Friedman
 - Andrew Garfinkel
 - John Gentile
 - John Githens
 - Brandon Gold
 - Gabrielle Gold
 - Brittany Goncalves
 - Erik Gozdieski
 - Rachel Gross
 - Kathryn Halliburton
 - Edward Han
 - Julia Harbaugh
 - Ryan Heine
 - Evan Heroux
 - Charli Ann Herrington
 - D Ryan Hess
 - Megan Hoerner
 - Madeline Horowitz
 - Gregory Howard
 - Melanie Johnson
 - Catherine Johnston
 - Tracy Kaplan
 - Megan Kaveney
 - James Jack' Kephart
 - Kevin Kessler
 - Ibrahim Khedr
 - Madeline Komar
 - Tom Kowalski
 - Roman Krywulych
 - Jeffrey LaForge
 - Martina Landeka
 - Michael Levidy
 - Jeremy W. Lin
 - James Lisooey
 - Brenna Logue
 - Charlotte Lorentzen
 - John (Jack) Lorentzen
 - Anne Maguire
 - Christopher Mannino
 - Mikhail Maslyuk
 - Diana Maslov
 - Natalie Materok
 - Nicholas Matthews
 - Benjamin J Mc Cready
 - Matthew Mc Evoy
 - Connor Melofchik
 - Christopher Mench
 - Charles Milrod
 - Amanda Minken
 - Brian Monteiro
 - Kevin Morris
 - Morgan Murphy
 - Ryan Murray
 - Richard Nugent
 - Dylan O'Purdy
 - Hannah Purdy
 - Christine Pyoi
 - William Reynolds
 - William B. Riggs
 - Adel Roff
 - Emily Ronk
 - Robyn Rosenzweig
 - Connor Streaman
 - Meghan Sullivan
 - Adrian Szycoewski
 - Rachel Tabak
 - Gabrielle Tanji
 - Sabrina Telsey
 - Matthew Tice
 - Sam Tooley
 - Joseph Toresco
 - Sirena Van Epp
 - Nathaniel Ward
 - Julia Wasilewski
 - Katherine Waxtel
 - Isabelle Weisman
 - Kayla Wiesinger
 - John Yingling
 - Mitchell D'Young
 - Zachary Zagorski
 - Adam P Ziering



VOTER TURNOUT...On Election Day, the Tiger Class at Wesley Hall Nursery School opened their own voting booth, where children voted for their favorite snacks. When the tallies were counted, brownies won by a landslide.



LET IT SNOW...Gloves, hats and socks were collected from members of Woman's Club of Westfield for the annual Mitten Tree program for children ages 6 to 12. Pictured, from left to right, are: Nita McHugh, chairperson, Marjorie Wieseman and Helen Allegro. For further information, write the Woman's Club of Westfield, P.O. Box 2428, Westfield, NJ 07091.

Holy Trinity Competes In Scholastic Olympics

WESTFIELD – Only one point separated first and second place in the 35th annual Scholastic Olympics hosted by Roselle Catholic High School. St. John the Apostle School of Clark took first place and Holy Trinity Interparochial School of Westfield won second place. Our Lady of Sorrows School in South Orange claimed third place.

The Scholastic Olympics is an academic competition for eighth graders, with students being tested in a variety of subjects including mathematics, religion, forensics and science. Brother Owen Ormsby, principal of Roselle Catholic, addressed the competitors, saying: "Never forget who you are and how you got here and what your elementary school gave you as a foundation."

Veronica Glennon and Sara Palasits took first place in current events and mathematics, respectively. Timothy Connell (current events), Peter LiVolsi (English) and Edward McGovern

(spelling) earned second place honors. John Serzan (forensics), Joseph Toegel (art), Neil Haggerty (religion) and Mary Beth Fiedler (spelling) earned third place recognition.

Margaret Fitzpatrick (religion), Marissa Minnicino (art), Emily Nuila and Jake Penders (history), Matthew Potter (mathematics), Sara Power (English), and Sean Siburn and Shannon Lenahan (science) also competed for Holy Trinity.

Students placing first, second and third were awarded Roselle Catholic scholarships. The moderators for the Holy Trinity team were eighth-grade teachers Pat Byrne and Joseph Wargo, Jr. This year, 16 area Catholic elementary schools competed at the Scholastic Olympics.

Dorothy Szoj, Principal of Holy Trinity, said: "As always, we feel our excellent performance at the annual Scholastic Olympics reflects the strong academic program here at Holy Trinity. I am very happy for the students."

Barrasso Assists

Homeless Children

WESTFIELD – Barrasso Consulting of Westfield provided gift-wrapped toys, clothes and gift certificates to the 43 children of the Ozanam Family Homeless Shelter of Edison at a December 12 Christmas Party coordinated by the members of the Youth Ministry Program of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church Parish in Westfield. The charity party took place at St. Helen's recreation facility.

"We were delighted when Barrasso Consulting once again offered to sponsor the children's wish list of holiday gifts for our annual event," said Patricia Gardner, head of the Youth Ministry Program at St. Helen's Church. "Their hard work and generosity, combined with the dedication of our ninth to 12th grade youth ministry volunteers, made our Christmas party a tremendous success, and brought much happiness and holiday cheer to so many families."

All holiday gifts were purchased from local vendors, including The Children's Place, which offered additional merchandise discounts to further support the cause.

"As a longtime Westfield resident, I am pleased to have the opportunity to work alongside a number of excellent social service agencies," said Diane Barrasso, founder and president of Barrasso Consulting LLC.

"Our staff is committed to reaching out to our local community members and offering additional support and guidance to those in need. The spirit of giving helps us to further appreciate the true meaning of the holiday season," she said.

Wardlaw Reveals Cast List for The Music Man

AREA – The cast list for the spring 2007 musical at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison, *The Music Man*, has been announced. The production will be staged at the school at 7:30 p.m. from Thursday, March 1, to Saturday, March 3. Melanie Whitney will serve as music director, while Jane Brown is the accompanist. Westfield and Scotch Plains cast members and their roles follow:

Matthew Forman of Scotch Plains, "Harold Hill," Michael Miettlicki of Scotch Plains, "Mayor Shinn," Billy Buchbinder of Scotch Plains, "Winthrop," and Alyssa Torpey of Scotch Plains, "Maud Dunlop."

"The Newspaper Readers" will include Lexi Faust of Westfield and Sunny Park of Scotch Plains.

"River City Townspeople/Pick a little ladies" will include Lexi Faust of Westfield and Sunny Park of Scotch Plains.

"Middle School Townspeople" will include Catherine Badalamenti of Scotch Plains.

Fanwood's Dyckman Takes Part in UC's Virtual School

SCOTCH PLAINS – When most people think about high school, they picture students sitting at desks taking notes from teachers who write important points on chalkboards. This has been the model for learning for ages, but that is all changing thanks to schools that embrace technology to alter education for the new millennium.

Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains is one school leading the charge to revolutionize ideas of what schools can offer students. In addition to the "traditional" curriculum, students at Union Catholic can choose from more than 250 classes taught by Virtual High School, Inc. (VHS).

This is made possible thanks to the advent of the Internet. Shopping, banking and personal communication have all benefited from this technology and now education follows suit.

VHS connects Union Catholic to its worldwide online network of students and teachers. As one of a select few New Jersey schools enrolled in the program, Union Catholic's students have the opportunity to delve into their interests by taking accredited courses that go beyond standard high-school subjects like physics, history and algebra.

Senior Fanwood resident Megan Dyckman is polishing her college resume by taking the VHS class "Genes and Diseases."

Instead of reporting to a classroom for lessons, Megan connects to a virtual classroom on her laptop computer, joining classmates from all over the world. The teacher posts all notes and assignments in the virtual classroom, which is accessible 24 hours a day.

The online classroom also features a message board and private area for students to communicate with the teacher and get feedback on their work. A site coordinator is available at Union Catholic to help Megan and to track her progress throughout the semester.

Megan said she loves the flexibility and different approach to learning that VHS offers. "I'm already taking advanced biology and, since I want to be a doctor someday, I wanted a course that would help me further my education in medicine," she said. "This program gives me the opportunity to do so."

Union Catholic, already known for its technology-based approach to learning, was eager to provide the VHS program to its students.

"The driving force behind this decision was to expand our offerings and to make new use of the technology that we have with our anytime, anywhere laptop-learning program," said Sister Percylee Hart, the school's principal. "Every student is equipped with a laptop computer, so the Virtual High School offered a natural extension to our technology-infused curriculum. Not only are the students exploring new academic offerings, but they are also gaining the experience of learning and sharing ideas in an online environment."

During the pilot program, nine students took VHS online classes. The school expects more students to participate in the coming years.

"We're very excited about the program," Sister Hart said. "This is an opportunity to teach our students how to be responsible users of the Internet and to use innovative technology to expand their academic experiences."



Megan Dyckman

Local Resident to Play Basketball at CAA

WESTFIELD – Westfield resident Spencer Kolek, a sixth grade student at Newark Academy in Livingston and member of the boys middle school basketball team, will play a half-hour game at the Continental Airlines Arena prior to the Seton Hall vs. Rutgers Big East Game on Wednesday, January 3, at 5:30 p.m.

Newark Academy will play the Montville All-Star team. A pre-game crowd of 10,000 fans is anticipated.

Oak Knoll Names Honor Roll Students

AREA – Timothy Saburn, headmaster and Mary Sciarillo, upper school principal of Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit recently announced the names of students whose grades earned them first honor roll status for the first trimester.

Area students include: ninth grader Victoria Roeck of Westfield, 10th grader Katharine Thiemer of Mountainside and 12th grader Christine Cobuzzi of Westfield.



Convenience Does Not Come Without Consequence

By JESSICA RIEGEL
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

It started off like any other day. Finally finished with my English essay at much too late—early, really—an hour, I saw my printer was out of paper. Too lazy and afraid of the dark to journey downstairs and replenish my stock, I did what I had done many times before: e-mail the essay to myself to print it out at school the next day.

Two hours of sleep and three cups of coffee later, I logged on to a Hi's Eye computer and, as usual, went to AOL.com. And then it happened. Instead of the log in box, there was a big ugly HTML banner: *Service not available. Please refresh your page or try again in a few minutes.* I tried the other computers. Nothing. I tried the computer lab and library. Nothing. In the grand tradition of teenage melodrama, my life was over.

AOL was restored by Period 8, but the giant lump in my throat all day woke me up to just how dependent I was on such a potentially fallible system. I was completely at the will of some microchips and a motherboard.

Technology improves our lives in infinite ways, letting us travel to the moon and carry 20,000 songs in our pockets. But convenience does not come without consequence. Remember the Y2K scare?

Anxious hordes stormed grocery stores and built underground shelters in anticipation of society's shutdown because someone didn't type a digit into computer. Internet chat rooms open up new cans of worms for stalking, cyber bullying and other bad things for *Dateline* to investigate. Electronic voting machines that premiered in the recent election welcome fraud and miscounts without a paper trail to verify results.

Of course, the benefits of these tools outweigh their drawbacks. Imagine trying to parallel park a horse and buggy on Dorian before rushing to first period in a lantern-lit hallway.

And there's no place where technology plays a more bittersweet role than in the classroom.

Homework in the digital age is defined by our reliance on technology. Raised with calculators in hand, students blindly punch away with little notion of what the numbers are doing behind the solar-powered screen. I won't blame my mathematical ineptitudes on the curriculum's shallow focus on the logic behind equations, but if a TI-84 Plus Silver Edition is doing all the thinking, students can't fully understand the concepts.

When feeling befuddled by "Don Quixote," I turn to my dear friend the Internet to tell me what a word means. Translation websites shouldn't be harmful if used as a dictionary, but all too easily, that one word turns into a sentence, which somehow grows into a paragraph.

At that point, why not just translate the entire essay? It seems easy enough, but it's guaranteed to backfire. The computer can't tell what words make sense together. That's the student's job. Using technology isn't cheating per se, but it is cheating ourselves out of a complete education if it replaces our brains rather than complements them.

What's scary isn't so much our dependence itself, but the lack of alternatives. From assignments posted on teachers' websites to PowerPoint presentations, technology is indispensable in our school and out.

We can apply to college online. Humans are no longer on the other end of customer service hotlines. And for better or for worse, my mother now IMs me from downstairs to say "dinner is ready." I'm not about to start taking notes in ink with a quill pen because of an unavailable server, but the traumatic experience will make me think twice about saving my work and maybe, just maybe, printing a hard copy.

Jessica is a senior at Westfield High School.