



BEE PROUD... Pictured, from left to right, are: Yixiao Wang, third place, Westfield High School; Adnan Khan, second place, Hackensack High School; Hope Skibitsky, first place, Westfield High School; and Grace Wilson, fourth place, Pope John XXIII High School, Franklin. See release to the lower left.

Arts Department Establishes Barbara Flynn Scholarship

WESTFIELD – The Fine Arts Department of the Westfield public schools announced the establishment of a scholarship in memory of former teacher Barbara Flynn.

Mrs. Flynn, who died in January, was an art teacher at Westfield High School (WHS) for 20 years. "She went far beyond her job as a ceramics teacher," her supervisor Linda King said.

"Barbara played a major part overseeing design aspects for the construction of art rooms during the high school addition, was the advisor for the set design club, technical advisor for the art club, was instrumental in bringing computer technology to the department and served as an officer of the Westfield Education Association for the last 10 years," Ms. King added.

"The legacy she leaves behind is visible throughout the school," she

Hope Skibitsky Wins Annual NJ Brain Bee

WESTFIELD – High school students from around the state competed in the annual New Jersey Brain Bee held in January at Schering-Plough's world headquarters in Kenilworth.

Hope Skibitsky, a student at Westfield High School, took the top honor, winning \$300 and an all-expenses-paid trip for two to compete in the eighth annual International Brain Bee, which takes place at the University of Maryland in Baltimore, Md.

The New Jersey contest is one of many in the U.S., Canada and Mexico that qualifies students for the international bee that will be held in conjunction with Brain Awareness Week, March 12 to 18.

The bee, designed to motivate young people and inspire them to pursue careers in research, was organized and judged by local members of the Society for Neuroscience. Schering-Plough has sponsored the New Jersey competition for five years.

Adnan Khan, a student at Hackensack High School, won second place and Yixiao Wang, who also attends Westfield High School, won third place.



Kurt Bieber with student

WF's Kurt Bieber Volunteers in Israel

WESTFIELD – After graduating from the Union County Magnet High School in Scotch Plains last spring, Kurt Bieber joined more than 400 young people on Young Judea Year Course, a program of working, studying and volunteering in Israel.

After working on a kibbutz, a communal farm, in Northern Israel for three months, Kurt currently volunteers in an elementary school in Bat-Yam, near Tel Aviv. He tutors the children in English. Kurt's final three months in Israel will be spent studying in Jerusalem.

Kurt is the son of Michael and Renate Bieber of Westfield.

PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

2nd Marking Period

SCOTCH PLAINS – Park Middle School Principal Lisa Rebinbas announced the names of the Second Marking Period Honor Roll designees:

6th Grade Regular

Aashay Anjaria, Maija Barnes, Robert Barone, Andres Barros, Vincenzo Bianco, Matthew Blanck, Emily Boruch, Matthew Boruch, Adam Bransky, Kate Bruckman, Kaitlyn Budis, Caitlin Bunin, Mary Ellen Cagnassola, Nicole Campbell, Gabriel Canicosa, Connor Cheney, Heather Chernoff, Lucas Cimafonte, Michael Colineri, Kathleen Colonna, Craig Conlan, Luke Crawford, John Cunningham, Taylor Decarlo, Timothy Duddy, Luciano Epp, Melissa Gara, Kristen Gerritsen, Gabrielle Gilles, Gaele Gilles, Lia Gordon, Justin Grambor, Christina Jackson, Rebecca Jenkins, James Kaiser, Sonali Kamath, David Leavitt, George Leavitt, Jason Leong, Ryan Lesiak, Briana Lolo, Cody Lyman, Steven Magnotta, Maxim Maltsev, Maxine Mannino, Maxwell Mansilla, Francisco Marrero, Morris May, Melissa McQuoid, Mathew Medina, Tyler Merriman, Jonathan Miksis, Enovi Molina-Chevez, John Murphy, Emmanuel Nocum, Renee Oliver, Dorian Pawlowicz, Jeffrey Pershay, Megan Phelan, Leya Quinones, Samantha Renfree, Bridget Reynolds, Anna Rivero, Jacqueline Roiz, Marc Rosario, Joseph Ruzek, Monique Santos, Alexander Segulin, Merhan Shams, Antonio Spadaro, Christopher Stone, Gabrielle Testa, Josef Zamzam, Tom Zimmermann, Robert Zukofsky.

6th Grade Distinguished

Stephanie Araneo, Abigail Bridge, Brian Burns, Dana Cappicelle, William Castore, Christopher Ciccarino, Andrew Citera, Matthew Debiase, Nicholas Demmel, Colleen Farrell, Alicia Fung-A-Fat, Justin Glock, Hannah Greaney, Danielle Karacsony, Emily Koprowski, Madeline Krema, Nicole Lamastra, Christie Leist, Elsa Leistikow, Caroline Lesce, Tyler Martin, Grace Mealandin, Danielle McDuffie, Kelsey Meisch, Katherine Minski, Tessa Mitserhoff, Robert Mrozek, Olivia Nelson, Colin O'Kell, Tara Palkoski, Savvas Petridis, Amanda Raphael, Carly Redfield, Elise Ringel, Maria Jose Rivero, John Roberts, Kathryn Rodriguez, Dylan Sands, Taylor Smith, Christopher Stanton, Zoe-Nicole Stein, Taylor Swaak, Jovenice Uriarte, Mary Vannatta, Aidan Ziobro.

7th Grade Regular

Onaisa Ahmad, Omar Amer, Alyssa Apuzzio, Rachel Armus, Chandler Arthur, Lisa Awaitey, Ibukin Babalola, Elizabeth Baldwin, Gregory Baliko, Jacqueline Batts, Dominic Bray, Samuel Brown, Chris Burke, Daniel Carabba, Jason Ceparulo, Imani Childs-Bahaj, Ara Cho, Abigale Churaman, Clare Cohen, Robert Colonna, Jordan Dagostaro, Octavia Dails, Alivia Demaria, Erin Dempsey, Jennifer Madman, Nicole DePaola, Louis Dodge, Ramona Dunning, Luke Emnas, Jessica Esbrandt, Kendall Fawcett, Jaclyn Friedman, Molly Gechtman, Allison Grimm, Alexandra Harmon, Matthew Harnett, Patrice Hayden, Kevin Hesson, Quade Ibarra, Christina Karpel, Amira Khalil, Ryan Kiel, Victoria Lesce, Rebecca Maioriello, Michael Mannino, Daniel McMillan, Kathryn Melendez, Jake Metsky, David Michalak, Luke Mineo, Michael

Misiak, Mariel Mital, Megan Morelli, Dylan Mruzinski, Margaret O'Brien, Marisol Pacaja, Kristina Palazzolo, Raushan Palejwala, Dhruvi Patel, Emma Pearson, Francis Quigley, Madison Riley, Carlie Roessle, Annabelle Rosen, Victoria Roser, Benjamin Ross, William Schauer, Joseph Schmitz, Jillian Schuster, Zachary Shanker, Rose Sigona, Allison Speck, Emily Stefanik, Alex Suriano, Alex Tannenbaum, Raymond Taylor, Jonathan Tomasulo, Steven Vadas, Keira Wiggins, Andrew Wilson, Alan Woodfield, Michael Ziegler.

7th Grade Distinguished

Dominika Blach, Kelsey Boyea, Adam Carabba, Laura Cappelli, Isabel Crystal, Lindsay Curtis, Margaret Diaz, John DiBattista, Katherine Fletcher, Steven Garber, Joshua Knechtel, Kathryn Lee, Kristen Lee, James Marvosa, Lisa Matrale, Meghan McGrath, Anna McGuinness, Joseph McQuoid, Emily Nardone, Taylor Novello, Erin Pierce, Melissa Quarto, Disha Rao, Delaney Reimers, Max Reo, Cassandra Segulin, Christine Szpond, Chayakorn Triamarit, Sarah VanBuskirk, Alexandra Zaller, Christina Zekunde.

8th Grade Regular

Lauren Berk, Elle Bernardo, Jerry Bi, Celeste Bilkerdyk, Christina Bobyack, Meghan Bruckman, Ryan Burger, Toni-Ann Capece, Joanna Carroll, Marianna Caruso-Gilbert, Charles Centinaro, Christopher Cerchio, Robert Cerchio, Rachel Chan, Jacqueline Close, Jennifer Cua, Meghan Cunningham, Nicole Danik, Matthew D'Apuzzo, Paige Della Badia, Rachel Dolan, Erik Ekstrand, Marc Henry Estriplet, Tessa Felegy, Camille Handy, Amanda Hanna, Danya Jacobs, Priyanka Kamath, Gregory Kashmer, Matthew Kersey, Kenneth Lee, Kathleen Leeper, Anna Leistikow, Daniel Lesce, Alexa Levy, Conor Lockier, Edward Logie, Taryn Luby, Kyle Mahoney, Vidhan Malik, Yevgeniy Mayorenko, Nathalia Montoya, Adam Monzella, Christine Murphy, Tyler Palkoski, Benjamin Parisi, Hyun-Jin Park, Ananth Rao, Adam Redfield, Brittany Reilly, William Rivera, Stephanie Robak, Anne Rubin, Kevin Schmidt, Michael Spaeth, Allison Staniec, Bartosz Stawicki, Jamie Swanton, Rory Szeto, Jeffrey Uehlinger, Alyssa Young.

8th Grade Distinguished

Brie Adamczyk, Kimberley Agbo, Bria Barnes, Micaela Jo Bernardo, Erin Brown, Laura Bruce, Lauren Buckley, Santino Butler, Paeal Canicosa, Hayley Cornwell, Elena Haggan, Peter Huether, Emma Kelly, Richard Krema, Brianna Mahoney, Danielle Schweizer, Harmeet Sohal, Sarah-Elis Stein, Elizabeth Stranzenbach.

Fifth Graders Invited To Edison's Birthday

WESTFIELD – All fifth grade students and their parents in the Westfield Public Schools are invited to celebrate Thomas Edison's birthday at Edison Intermediate School on Thursday, February 22.

The evening celebration will begin at 7 p.m., with a performance by the Edison Drama Club in the auditorium.

Activities will take place directly following the play, including games, prizes and birthday cake. Some of the games include the Invention Timeline game, building a circuit and making a light bulb illuminate.



TEMPLE VISIT... Holy Trinity Interparochial School's sixth grade classes of Patricia Green and Jacqueline Pantano recently were given a tour of Temple Emanu-El in Westfield to accompany their religion curriculum. The temple's religious school principal, David Grolund-Jacob, and Cantor Martha Novick gave a lecture. Pictured, from left to right, are Mrs. Green, Mr. Grolund-Jacob and students Kelly Glennon and Mary McDermott.

Education Matters

Model U.N. Brings Knowledge And Confidence to WF Students



By DANIEL FARABAUGH
WHS Social Studies teacher, Model United Nations advisor

Every year, I get the joy of taking more than 130 students to the Model United Nations conference in Hershey, Pa.

I am merely one part of this program that is also run through the Westfield YMCA, led by Marty Collett, and my co-advisor David Della Fera.

The students meet weekly at the high school to prepare, and for three days every January, they comport themselves like members of the real United Nations, engaging in the writing of resolutions, debating world issues and forging relationships.

The students perform exceptionally well and garner many awards and accolades, such as Premier Delegate, Best Position Paper and Outstanding Country.

But it is not the awards that show the true worth of the program, which is not to say that they are not great honors, especially since their peers award many of them.

The true worth is watching these students grow and perform with a level of sophistication that is astounding. They understand the workings of NGO's (non-governmental organizations), the finances of international committees and the inner working of the world courts.

I do not kid myself into thinking that this information is going to be instrumental in the rest of their lives; the provisions of the International Monetary Fund rarely come up at most jobs. But what I do see is the way that this understanding changes them.

Timid and shy students develop a commanding presence that forces people to listen. Students who constantly doubt themselves speak with an authority that is well beyond their years. Students who never want to be in charge of anything find themselves running committees of more than 20 students.

Knowledge and confidence cannot be taught. I can provide them information and encouragement, but they need opportunities to shine and the Model United Nations provides this.

The most amazing part of this is that they do much of this on their own. At the conference, there is always a rumor that as the advisor of the club, I have try outs and training sessions that whip the students into shape and that is what accounts for how well the club performs. In truth, all I do is organization, paperwork,

explanation of rules and requirements and other activities, which merely set the stage.

It is the students who really bring out the best in themselves. Experienced delegates and officers help first years. The older students respect the program so much that they want to give back to the younger students more than what they got out of it themselves. All of the credit I get for this club is merely the reflection of the credit that the students deserve.

The Model United Nations trip is always one of the high points of my teaching year. Watching them achieve and grow in confidence makes me proud. I believe that the subtle moments are what make teaching great.

More than the awards ceremony, the best times are when a normally reserved student comes to me with genuine enthusiasm to announce that he or she spoke in session. It is almost as if you can see them growing before your eyes and it is special to be a part of that.

More Education on Page 20

WF's Bonard Makes JMU Dean's List

WESTFIELD – Catherine Bonard, a 2003 graduate of Westfield High School, was named to the dean's list in the College of Education at James Madison University (JMU) for the fall semester 2006.

Currently, Catherine, a senior at JMU, majors in elementary education. She is the daughter of Georgene and Tom Bonard of Westfield.

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A Recipe for Peace

By KAITLYN LUTZ
Fifth Grader at Wilson School

Ingredients:

Two cups of cooperation
One pound of love
Half of a cup of respect
One cup of responsibility

Procedure:

Mix cooperation with responsibility; stir, add a pinch of respect, add a dash of love; stir, bake for one hour.

Serving size:

One country by one until the whole world is full of peace.



Union Chinese School Celebrates New Year

WESTFIELD – Union Chinese School (UCS) celebrated Chinese New Year (Year of the Boar, 4705) on February 10 with a student's performance at Edison Intermediate School.

The school is a non-profit sub-organization under Chinese American Cultural Association. UCS offers Chinese language classes from pre-kindergarten (4-year-olds) to 10th grade, plus Chinese as a second language classes for families without Chinese-speaking background.

For more information, visit westfieldnj.com/ucs/



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