



JUMPING FOR A CAUSE... On March 13, Beechwood School students did an incredible job raising \$13,020 by participating in Jump Rope for Heart Day. Over the past 10 years, students have raised a total of \$67,000 for the American Heart Association. With the assistance of the Mountainside Education Foundation, the district was able to continue this program for the children of Beechwood School.

UC Inducts Students Into National Honor Society

SCOTCH PLAINS—Union Catholic proudly welcomed new students into the French Honor Society, Italian Honor Society, and Spanish Honor Society at the World Language National Honor Society Induction held on March 7.

"It was so wonderful to see the hard work of these students recognized," says faculty member and Spanish Honor Society moderator Christina LoCicero. "They have shown a true love of language and have embraced a culture other than their own; I know that these students will carry with them this knowledge far beyond the walls of UC."



ACT OF LOVE... Christina Arida, a fourth grader at Franklin Elementary School, cut her long hair short to donate to the Locks of Love organization. This is the second time she has cut her hair for donation in the past two years.

The following students have met all the requirements set forth by the World Language Honor Society.

French Inductees

Andres Aguiza of Roselle Park, Sarah Beriont of Garwood, Cristina Santos of Elizabeth, Robert Vagueiro of Hillside.

Italian Inductees

Kathryn Bricki of Linden, Brian Cattafe of Plainfield, Timothy Chapman of Scotch Plains, Victoria Crincoli of Cranford, Jacqueline Fabricatore of Scotch Plains, Susana Fernandez of Newark, Danielle Galasso of Scotch Plains, Jillian Gonzales of Scotch Plains, Michael Gonzalez of Kenilworth, Christine Hahn of Watchung, Victoria Liantonio of Edison, Kevin Moran of Clark, Alison Riguera of Colonia, Ashley Titolo of Fords.

Spanish Inductees

Natasha Andre of Colonia, Adriana Belmonte of Union, Catherine Bree of Colonia, Katherine Brown of Edison, Rosa Cuppari of Kenilworth, Alexa DaSilva of Union, Taylor Diken of Fanwood, Yolande Edme of Linden, Lauren Faria of Linden, Jacquelyn Freire of Elizabeth, Gregory Gagliardi of Mountainside, Kiana Hawkins of Irvington, Yarelis Lafuente of Union, Vanessa Marinha of Union, Emily Moglia of Warren, Jolie Montes of Roselle Park, Kellie Orcutt of Linden, Matthew Sarrico of Fords, Shannon Streisel of Clark, Amanda Szyzkiewicz of Rahway, Caroline Valenzano of Cranford, Dihanna Wijedasa of Metuchen, Ui-Yeon Yoon of Metuchen.

Newmark Breaks Ground for State-of-the-Art Facility

SCOTCH PLAINS—Leaders and students from two private special needs schools as well as local officials and key supporters were on hand March 8 for the groundbreaking ceremony of a new state-of-the-art school. The two-story facility at 1000 Cellar Avenue will accommodate students from both the Newmark School, a K-8 facility in Plainfield, and Newmark High School in Carteret.

"In addition to expanding services for our students and further utilizing the expertise of our staff, the Newmark Schools facility will allow us to reach out to the increasing special needs population, the community and educators throughout the state," said Cynthia Allman, co-founder and co-executive director of both schools. "The Newmark Schools will feature a teacher training institute where educators from throughout the state will come to learn and observe proven teaching methods for students with learning disabilities and behavioral disorders."

Local officials at the groundbreaking included Scotch Plains Mayor Nancy Malool and Warren Mayor Carolann Garafola. Duncan Niederauer, co-chair of the capital campaign committee for the new facility and CEO of the NYSE Euronext, was also on hand and spoke about how critical Newmark School and Newmark High School are for the special needs community. He also shared the positive impact Newmark School has had on his child's life.

The 58,000 square foot facility will include a regional special needs community center that will offer children and their families opportuni-

ties to socialize, play sports and partake in community service projects. "The idea is to open our doors to other students with special needs who don't currently attend our schools but who are more than welcome to come and socialize and take advantage of some of the afterschool programming we will be offering," said Ms. Allman.

The new facility will also be equipped with the latest in technology including wireless access in all learning areas. Classrooms will have interactive whiteboards, media stations and laptops. A learning commons will provide students with a place to use computers and share information.

Collaborative learning will feature prominently at Newmark Schools. Mediascapes—a mix of furniture and technology that allows groups of students to share and access information on their laptops—will be available for use. "Classroom layout will also serve to foster collaboration," said Ms. Allman. "Instead of rows of traditional desks, students will be seated in node chairs, which are mobile and flexible. The classroom set up will be designed for quick, easy transitions, going from one teaching mode to the next without interruption."

A life skills apartment that simulates a home environment will teach high school students how to live independently. Additional features of the new facility include two art studios, a soundproof music room, therapy rooms, science lab and a health and wellness center.

The new facility is expected to be completed by spring 2013.



NEW SCHOOL... Westfield residents Amy and Scott Giardina join their daughter and Newmark School student, Cameron, during the groundbreaking for a state-of-the-art facility in Scotch Plains that will house the Newmark School and Newmark High School. Mr. Giardina is a member of the fund-raising committee for the facility.

Hillcrest Students Exhibit 'No Limits' At City Without Walls Gallery

WESTFIELD - On March 7, students of Hillcrest Academy South Campus in Westfield proudly joined the Newark art community in an exhibit opening at the City Without Walls Gallery, which featured their artwork entitled "No Limits." The piece was a large-scale installation that combined various individual artwork pieces into one sculpture. The sculpture itself takes the shape of different rooms in a house.

Hillcrest Academy art teacher Kristina Scheetz received a grant from the Artists in Education organization and assisted in putting together this inspirational display along with her students and Artist-In-Residence, Molly Johnson.

Ms. Scheetz explains, "We decided to put everyone's individual art into a 'house' because we feel like a family. Each of the rooms contain inspirational quotes and

symbolism of achievements made at Hillcrest Academy." Hillcrest student Jerald stated, "The flowers represent us as people growing up, because we're getting older and wiser. The ladder is basically the ladder of success. The messages on the wall represent each of us as individuals. Each person has a different message."

Many of the visual messages in the artwork may look negative at first glance, but as student Carolyn points out, "If you look closely, the quotes say positive and inspirational things." Ms. Scheetz added, "This was done intentionally to exemplify that what you see from afar is not always the reality of the situation."

The exhibit is titled "No Limits" as the Hillcrest Academy South students feel there are no limits as to what they can achieve in life.



PERFECT... Six Westfield High School students earned a perfect score of 800 on the SAT or SAT 2 Subject Tests taken in December and January. Pictured, left to right, are: Edmund Han, Math; Alexander Jeffrey, Reading; Rohit Saigal, Math; Robert Cassie, Math and Writing; Paul Lee, Reading; and missing from photo, Alex Ying, Reading.

Public Invited To Budget Meetings

WESTFIELD—The last two public meetings on the Westfield Public School budget for 2012-13 will take place Tuesday, March 20, and March 27, at 8 p.m. in the Board Room at 302 Elm Street.

The Board will approve the final budget on March 27 at the official budget hearing. Previous presentations can be viewed at www.westfieldnj12.org/1213budget.

See it all on the Web!
www.goleader.com

Six WHS Students Earn Perfect SAT Score

WESTFIELD—Westfield High School has received notification that six students earned a perfect score of 800 on the SAT or SAT 2 Subject Tests taken in December and January.

These students and the subjects in which they received a perfect score are as follows: Edmund Han, Math; Alexander Jeffrey, Reading; Rohit Saigal, Math; Robert Cassie, Math and Writing; Paul Lee, Reading; and Alex Ying, Reading.

Peter Renwick, Principal of Westfield High School, commended the students on the outstanding achievement. "It speaks volumes about your abilities and your commitment to your education," he stated.

Mount Saint Mary Academy Mercy Guild To Host Fashion Show Fundraiser

WATCHUNG—The Mercy Guild of Mount Saint Mary Academy will host its annual Luncheon Fashion Show and Basket Raffle on Sunday, March 25, at the Bridgewater Marriott Hotel, beginning at 11 a.m.

The luncheon, whose theme is "A Mardi Gras Celebration!" will feature students of the Academy modeling a range of fashions, from casual to formal.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$65, and basket raffle tickets range from \$2 to \$10. The basket raffle, which is for attendees only, features approximately 200 prizes, including theater tickets, vacation opportunities, jewelry, electronics, designer bags, and many other exciting items. There will also be a 50/50 cash raffle, with tickets available for \$5 each. 50/50 ticket

purchasers do not have to be present to win.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please go to the school's website, mountsaintmary.org.



Quinnipiac Announces Dean's List Honoree

HAMDEN, Conn. — Evan Shapiro of Westfield was named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2011 semester at Quinnipiac University.

To be eligible for Dean's List status, a student must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C.



BUDGET TALKS... Westfield Superintendent of Schools, Margaret Dolan, discussed the highlights of the budget at a recent PTO meeting at Washington School. Pictured clockwise, left to right, are: Principal Andrew Perry; Dr. Dolan; PTO Secretary, Kristen Fuccillo; PTO Co-President Monica Bergin; Board President, Finance Chair and Board liaison to Washington School, Richard Mattessich; and PTO Co-President Dorothy Norris. The last two public meetings on the Westfield Public School budget for 2012-13 will take place Tuesday, March 20, and March 27, at 8 p.m. in the Board Room at 302 Elm Street.

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