

## Two Local Students Chosen For NJ All State Honor Choir

FLEMINGTON – Dan Montealegre of Cranford and Conor Flood of Scotch Plains were selected for and participated in the 20th Annual New Jersey Junior High All State Honor Choir Concert held at the J. P. Case Middle School in Flemington on May 5. The students were sponsored by Tom Pedas of Garwood, their private voice teacher, and were selected through competitive auditions held in January.

“Not only were Dan and Conor selected for this prestigious choir, but Conor had the highest tenor score in the state and Dan had the highest bass 2 score in the state. This is a huge honor and accomplishment and I am very proud of both of them,” Mr. Pedas said.

The Honor Choir concert is an annual event sponsored by the American Choral Directors Association and the New Jersey Music Educators Association and open to public and private schools, churches and private studios throughout the state. This year’s choir sang music in five differ-

ent languages including Latin, French, and Korean. Highlights of the concert were a Maori welcome song from New Zealand sung in its native language, “It Don’t Mean a Thing” by Duke Ellington” and the spiritual “Walk in Jerusalem.”

This year’s Junior High Honor Choir was conducted by nationally known composer and conductor, Dr. Lon Beery, of New York. Dr. Beery previously taught music and composition at Syracuse University and the Eastman School of Music in Rochester and has previously directed All State Honor Choirs in Connecticut, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas. Of his experience in New Jersey Dr. Beery said, “I had a wonderful day working with the New Jersey Junior High Honor Choir. What great kids....and so well prepared.”

To commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the honor choir concerts, each student was presented with a medallion, which they wore during the concert.



**TALENTORIUM...**Park Middle School students shined on March 2 as a cast of over 60 students and 10 staff performed in Scotch Plains-Fanwood’s Park Middle School fifth annual talent show, Talentorium.

## SP-F Middle School Students Shine in Talent Show

SCOTCH PLAINS — Park Middle School students shined on March 2 as a cast of over 60 students and 10 staff performed in Scotch Plains-Fanwood’s Park Middle School fifth annual talent show, Talentorium.

This year’s theme was “The Big 80s.” Students from the school’s fifth through eighth grades performed in 35 acts, all with an 80s theme. Performances included sing-

ing, dancing, instrumentals and “fire” twirling. The show was performed to a packed house of over 570 very proud family and friends.

The students worked hard for over 10 weeks prior to opening night. In addition to a very talented cast of performers, the show could not have gone on without the behind the scenes work of the stage crew, custodial staff and the support of the Park Middle School administration.

The show was chaired by Park parent and PTA member, Susan Zitofsky. She was instrumental in organizing the logistics surrounding tickets, program ads and flower and refreshment sales. Under Ms. Zitofsky’s leadership, her team of parent, student and staff volunteers ensured that all the pre-event planning and the evening went smoothly.

Park Middle School teachers, Allison Sabo, Jamie Aitkens and Dr. Richard Minerely, spent countless hours directing the show. They tirelessly worked with the students and their fellow teachers to make the show a huge success. To round out the evening, flowers and refreshments were sold at the event. All the refreshments were donated by Park Middle School families. All net proceeds from “Talentorium” benefit the Park Middle School PTA, which in turn supports the school’s trips, events and programming.

Ms. Zitofsky, Madame Sabo, Ms. Aitkens and Dr. Minerely thank all the parent, student and staff volunteers for helping make Park Middle School’s performing stars shine so brightly.



**BRAVO...**Dan Montealegre of Cranford and Conor Flood of Scotch Plains participated in the 20th Annual New Jersey Junior High All State Honor Choir Concert held at the J. P. Case Middle School in Flemington on May 5. Pictured, left to right, are: Dr. Lon Beery, guest conductor of the Junior High All State Honor Choir, Conor and Dan.

## Chapman to Perform at Bethany Baptist Jazz Vespers Series

NEWARK – On Saturday, June 2, at 6 p.m., Gil Scott Chapman of Westfield will perform at the Bethany Baptist Church Jazz Vespers Series. Joining his quartet will be Kassa Overall on drums; Kenny Davis on bass and Lance Bryant on saxophone.

Gil, 21, is a jazz pianist who is pursuing a degree in Jazz studies while also studying with world-renowned jazz pianist Geri Allen at the University of Michigan. He graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy in 2008 and studied jazz and other styles at the Berklee College of Music from 2008-09, on a full scholarship.



**Gil Scott Chapman**

Gil has won numerous piano competitions over the years and has performed in recitals at Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, CAMI Hall, and the Monterey Jazz Festival. He participated in the University of Michigan’s annual scholarship showcase that highlighted the schools top scholarship recipients and has also performed alongside notable

teacher Geri Allen. He has most recently performed in a Gershwin tribute concert that included performances from world-renowned soprano Jessye Norman, and the University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra.

The Bethany Baptist Church is located at 275 West Market Street, Newark. For more information call (973) 623-8161.

## Holy Trinity Announces Honor Roll

Sister Maureen Fichner, SSJ, Principal of Holy Trinity Interparochial School in Westfield, has announced that the following students achieved Honor Roll status for the second trimester of the 2011-2012 school year:

**High Honors  
8th Grade**  
Peter Hunziker, Julia MacDonald, Anthony Scalia

**7th Grade**  
Kristen Cavallo, Veronica Cunningham, Sophia DiIorio, Michele Ferrer, Nicole Ferrer, Jacqueline McNulla, Daniel Thek, Hannah Toner, Shannon Wieszczyk

**6th Grade Honors  
8th Grade**  
Samantha Howath, Daniel Scalia

**7th Grade**  
Anna Cattafe, Tara Coffey, David Corrao, William Fitzpatrick, Matthew Guastamacchia, Alexandra Lebovitz, Christina Mastrocola, Grace Pfeifer, Patrice Sosinski

**6th Grade**  
Johnnie Antonucci, Eva Apuzzio, Carolina Cruces, Emily Doyle, Sarah Fannick, Kristen Hughes, Paolina Marano, Brendan McEwen, Lauren McNeil, Chiara von Gallwitz

**6th Grade**  
Caitlin Bourke, Alexander Brezik, Mary Brezik, Nicholas Cao, Rose Doherty, Catherine Gerlitz, Siobhan Hunziker, Patricia Lezynski, Julianna Mastrocola, Samira Morin, William Skinner, William Slaski, Brittany Walsh, Olivia Yarem

## Landscaping Tips Offered at Trailside, May 12 and June 16

MOUNTAINSIDE – The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Trailside Museum Association are sponsoring landscaping classes at Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside. The programs will be held on two Saturdays, May 12 and June 16, from 11 a.m. – 12 noon. Adults, ages 18 and older are invited to participate. Pre-registration is preferred. Walk-ins are welcome as space permits. There is no fee for these classes but donations are appreciated.

“These landscaping seminars will provide our residents with the knowledge and skills to grow and maintain beautiful gardens,” said Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella. “We appreciate the Trailside Museum Association’s sponsorship of the classes, as well as their ongoing support and commitment to the programs at Trailside.”

Bryan Lowe, horticulture consultant for HortSeminarsNJ, and a certified rain garden installer, will present these informative landscaping lectures.

Native plants will be the topic of discussion on Saturday, May 12. Many people express concern that invasive and exotic plants take over their yard. This class will teach which plants are considered invasive and exotic and explain why planting native species can help to reduce yard maintenance while benefiting the environment.

On Saturday, June 16, a class will be dedicated to pruning ornamental plants. Maintaining your ornamental plants through proper pruning will help keep them looking their best year-round. Learn how to prune ornamental trees, shrubs and perennials without damaging them. Bryan Lowe also will discuss the reasons

why it is important to prune, the proper time to prune and the tools and techniques that are used to get the best results.

The Trailside Museum Association, a sponsor of the landscaping classes, is an organization dedicated to assisting Trailside staff in their ongoing efforts to educate people in all aspects of nature, science and conservation by assisting with funding, volunteering and advocacy.

For more information about the Landscaping Classes or any other programs or upcoming events, call Trailside at (908) 789-3670 or visit [www.ucnj.org/trailside](http://www.ucnj.org/trailside). Trailside Nature and Science Center is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside and is a service of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.



## Washington and Lee Announces Honor Roll

LEXINGTON, Va. – The following Washington and Lee students have earned honor roll status for the recently ended winter 2012 term.

David Fishman, of Westfield, a member of the class of 2014; Andrew Gates, of Westfield, a member of the class of 2014; Ho Yee Lam, of Westfield, a member of the class of 2012 and Katherine Roberts, of Westfield, a member of the class of 2012

Honor roll status at W&L represents a term grade-average of at least 3.75 on a 4.0 scale.



**BLING BLING...**Third-grade students at McKinley Elementary School in Westfield recently collaborated with eighth-grade students from Roosevelt Intermediate School to construct parallel circuits. Created by the students using Christmas tree lights and battery packs, the resulting circuits were used as “bling” on fashion accessories, which the students wore during a dance video the third-graders choreographed. Pictured, eighth-grader Rowan Oberman works with third-grader JonCarlo Figueroa to connect the wires to a battery pack.

See it all on the Web!  
[www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com)

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- ♥ Do you need someone to drop-off or pick-up at the pharmacy, post office, dry cleaner, etc.?
- ♥ Want someone to shop, do laundry or prepare a light meal?
- ♥ Recovering from surgery/illness and need a helping hand?
- ♥ Need someone to stop in regularly to check on your safety, take casual walks or help with reading your mail?
- ♥ Need a trustworthy house sitter or someone to check on your house, bring in your mail/papers or water your plants while you're away?
- ♥ I also file paperwork; wait for deliveries/repairs; clear clutter or just help with tasks.

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Elizabeth Marasco 908-906-0604 [liz@errandsnchores.net](mailto:liz@errandsnchores.net)

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