



**FUTURE LEADERS...**The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School's Future Business Leaders of America (SPFHS FBLA) chapter competed in Atlantic City against over 50 schools. Pictured from left to right are: Zachary Labush, Cheryl Schneider, Ava Buttighieri, Alexa Anselmo, Nicole Alvarez, Lauren Eck, Mrs. Bethany Henry, Shannon Persaud, Sandra Abdelmalak, Noah Samms, Jan Andre Castro, and Ryan Eng.

## FBLA State Leadership Conference 2018

ATLANTIC CITY – From March 7 to 9, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School's Future Business Leaders of America (SPFHS FBLA) chapter competed in Atlantic City against over 50 schools.

The SPFHS FBLA chapter had 11 members compete in business topics varying from financial math, help desk, and more.

As a chapter, the SPFHS FBLA was recognized for the following chapter awards: Website Award of Merit, March of Dimes Volunteer, Membership Equalization and an award for Membership Expansion.

Three students nominated administrators for awards as well: Mrs. Fitzgibbon was awarded with Outstanding Local Chapter Volunteer and the adviser of the SPFHS FBLA, Mrs. Henry, received the Outstanding Local Chapter Adviser Award as well as her five years of service award.

The conference held workshops in addition to competitions where students were able to pick a career track to listen to professionals and college majors of the given career.

The chapter was also proud to hold a campaign for sophomore Sandra Abdelmalak who ran for State Secretary. Although she did not win the position, it was a great way to involve all of the chapter and learn more about leadership positions available in FBLA.

The conference attendees included: Nicole Alvarez (Word Processing and American Enterprise Project), Lauren Eck (Help Desk and American Enterprise Project), Cheryl Schneider (Insurance and Risk Management), Alexa

Anselmo (Client Services), Ryan Eng. (Intro to Information Technology), Shannon Persaud (Business Ethics), Ava Buttighieri (Client Services), Noah Samms (Intro to Business Presentation), Sandra Abdelmalak (Intro to Business Presentation), Zachary Labush (Accounting One), and John Castro (Introduction to Public Speaking).

The chapter had four people place in team and individual events, as well as three participants making it to the final round.

Lauren Eck and Nicole Alvarez placed third in American Enterprise Day, a project which included writing a 15-page paper and 10-minute presentation about the American enterprise system and the annual Entrepreneurship Breakfast held by DECA and FBLA on November 15.

Cheryl Schneider placed fourth in Insurance and Risk and also received the Gold Officer Award. For this event, she had to complete a 100-question test on insurance and risk management in an hour or less.

Alexa Anselmo placed fifth in Client Services, an interactive role-playing event. She was an employee on the phone with the judges who were asking questions about the given case study.

Nicole Alvarez placed second in Word Processing and received the Gold Member Award. For her individual event, she completed a production test using Word Documents with specific jobs to complete (i.e. memos, agendas, business report formatting) in under an hour. She was the only student from SPFHS FBLA to qualify for nationals.

## Colgate Announces Dean's Award with Distinction

HAMILTON, N.Y. – Students who receive a term grade point average of 3.6 or higher while completing at least three courses during the fall 2017 semester earn the Dean's Award with Distinction at Colgate University.

Courtney Casale, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2020, is a graduate of Westfield High School, from Westfield. Ms. Casale's current major is neuroscience.

Lucy Allen, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2018, is a graduate of Cranford High School,

from Cranford. Ms. Allen's current major is mathematical economics.

Jacob Wasserman, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2018, is a graduate of Westfield High School, from Westfield. Mr. Wasserman's current major is geography.

Colgate University is a highly selective residential liberal arts institution distinguished by its commitment to global engagement, student-faculty research, off-campus study, sustainable practices, and utilizing technology to enhance the teaching and learning experience.

## Local Residents Inducted Into Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, Louis. – The following Westfield residents were recently initiated at Fordham University into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

Helen Keating, Michelle Lugo and Megan Pinna.

These residents are among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year.

Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

## Holocaust Survivor Shares Journey With UC Students

SCOTCH PLAINS – Holocaust survivor Peter Fleischmann told his personal story to Mrs. Kathleen Webber's English class at Union Catholic.

Holocaust survivor Peter Fleischmann shared his extraordinary journey on Thursday when gave a heartfelt, enlightening, and educational presentation to a group of students at Union Catholic as he detailed his remarkable path to freedom from Czechoslovakia to the United States 77 years ago.

Speaking to Kathleen Webber's English class, Mr. Fleischmann, now 91 years old, told the story about how he and his Jewish family avoided capture and persecution when they escaped from Nazi-occupied Europe during the Holocaust, the deadliest genocide in history.

Mr. Fleischmann was 14 year old when his parents (Paul and Helene) and older brother (Henry) left Prague on March 31, 1941 and embarked on a 70-day journey that took them from Prague to France, Spain, Portugal, Cuba and finally to New York City on July 11.

During the long ordeal, that included several different train rides

and a voyage on a cramped ship to Cuba, Mr. Fleischmann and his family had just arrived in Spain when they were nearly sent back to home because Paul Fleischmann's name appeared on a list of people who fought against the Nationalists during the Spanish Civil War.

"The key to our survival was a complete stranger who heard what was happening and came to our assistance," said Mr. Fleischmann, who raised his family in Scotch Plains and now lives with his wife Bernice in Clark. "This stranger put us up for the night and explained to the police that weren't the same family that was on that list. He was able to convince them and we remained free. That stranger saved our lives."

Mr. Fleischmann stressed how important it is to help those in need.

"The important part of my whole story is to be an upstander and not a bystander," said Mr. Fleischmann. "Don't turn a blind eye or a deaf ear when you see something that isn't right. I tell my story to the next generation so that they understand the importance of taking on responsibility and acting against wrongs in this world."

Mrs. Webber said it's important for students to hear Mr. Fleischmann's story and message.

"We stress to our students to stand up for those that need help, and he (Mr. Fleischmann) emphasizes that," said Mrs. Webber. "So I think it's important for the students to hear from someone who experienced having someone stand up for him and his family."

To further educate students about the Holocaust, Mrs. Webber is a coordinating a trip for several UC students to the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. on April 23. The trip is being sponsored by Holocaust Remembrance Journeys www.rubellholocaustfoundation.org.

## Bernstein Earns Dean's Award at Colgate University

HAMILTON, N.Y. – Noah Bernstein, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2020, has earned the Dean's Award for Academic Excellence. Mr. Bernstein is a graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and is from Fanwood. His current major is economics.

Students who receive a term grade point average of 3.3 or higher while completing at least three courses earn the fall 2017 Dean's Award for Academic Excellence.

## RIT Students Named to Dean's List for Fall Semester

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – The following students at the Rochester Institute of Technology made the Dean's List for the fall semester:

Delaney Sciascia of Cranford, who is in the packaging science program.

Sam Finston of Cranford, who is in the game design and development program.

Elise Lloyd of Westfield, who is in

Kennedy Enrolls at Delaware Valley Univ.

DOYLESTOWN, Penn. – Delaware Valley University is pleased to announce that Garrett Kennedy, of Cranford, has enrolled as a new student for fall 2018.

The university will welcome a diverse and talented group of new students to campus this fall.

Simmons College Tells Dean's List

BOSTON, Mass. – Charlotte Esteves, a Cranford resident, was named to the 2017 fall semester dean's list at Simmons College in Boston. Their major is arts administration and music.

To qualify for dean's list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.

Scotch Plains Residents Earn Dean's List at BU

BOSTON, Mass. – Three Scotch Plains residents have recently been named to the Dean's List at Boston University for the Fall semester. Students recognized for this honor include: Hailey L. Rachko, Sabrina J. Shih and Monica L. Squeri.

Each school and college at Boston University has their own criterion for the Dean's List, but students generally must attain a 3.5 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale), or be in the top 30 percent of their class, as well as a full course load as a full time student.



**LEGAL PERFORMANCE...**The cast of *Legally Blonde* performed in the newly renovated Roosevelt Intermediate School auditorium (inset). Performance photo by Donna Pace.

## Legally Blonde Marks Debut Performance at RIS

WESTFIELD – Huge excitement greeted the first musical in one of the middle school auditoriums that recently reopened following their \$3-million refurbishment.

Ticket sales for *Legally Blonde* at Roosevelt Intermediate School (RIS) rocketed by 20 per cent compared to last year's production as Westfield residents flocked to see the results of months of work.

Excited students, parents and teachers filled the auditorium for three nights to hear the story, based on a popular movie, of a California girl who follows her ex-boyfriend to Harvard to try to win him back and finds there is much more to her than just a pretty face.

Mother-of-three Krista Pinkin, who is in her ninth year of musicals at Roosevelt, said: "After eight years of sitting in creaky wooden seats, it was such a pleasure to sit back and enjoy a Roosevelt production in a comfortable chair. The upgraded sound system made it possible to hear all of the performers on stage from all the seats in the newly-renovated auditorium. I am so pleased that our students now have a proper venue to show off all their talents."

Mrs. Pinkin said those same creaky seats had been in the auditorium when her husband, Steve, at-

tended the school in the late 1970s and her mother-in-law, Lois Pinkin in the early 1960s.

Eight-graders Meredith Shepherd and Lexie Pace, who were appearing in their third musical at the school, were enthusiastic about the changes.

"The auditorium looks beautiful and I am proud to have participated in the first RIS production on the new stage!" said Meredith.

And Lexie added: "I think that the sound in the new auditorium is a lot better and it's nicer because the old one had writing all over the seats!"

Drama teacher and director Kim Jonny commented: "The cast and crew enjoyed performing in the newly renovated auditorium! The new audio system has improved acoustics. Additionally, audience members liked the new seats and house lighting."

The Board of Education raised \$4-million by the issue of a bond to finance the much-needed refurbishments at Roosevelt and at Edison Intermediate School but the final cost was just over \$3.3-million.

Musical fans will be able to see the Edison auditorium in action when students present *The Sound of Music*.

## Piatkowski Inducted Into Hon. Soc. of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, Louis. – Kayla Piatkowski of Cranford, was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Ms. Piatkowski is pursuing a degree in Biology at James Madison University.

Piatkowski is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be ini-

tiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

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