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WESTFIELD ICE RINK BUILDS SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Submitted by Jill Garnhart

This winter, the Westfield Rink at Gumbert Park became a place to see the Westfield community at its finest. The outdoor rink not only hosted skating lessons, open skates and open hockey each weekend, but also a number of outreach programs that benefited the residents of Westfield.

In late December, the rink held an Adaptive Skate, designed to give children with special needs a chance to lace up and get on the ice. Volunteers from the Westfield Hockey Club and the Union Thunder Club provided support for the kids, many of whom had never skated.

The rink hosted two separate all-girls ice hockey clinics which highlights the growth of women’s hockey. Westfield native Rebecca “Moose” Morse, who plays professionally with the local Metropolitan Riveters, led the girls through drills and scrimmages. The first clinic was sponsored by the Westfield Hockey Club. The second clinic was sponsored by the Union Thunder Club.

Tamaques, Jefferson, McKinley, Washington and Wilson Elementary Schools held skate nights at the rink for their students, giving kids and their families a chance to get outside and hang with friends.

Curling clinics were held multiple times for both adults and children who were interested in learning about the Olympic sport.

The WHS Varsity boys team held a “Blue Puck Event”, where the high schoolers skated with youngsters who dream about playing ice hockey for the high school and beyond.

Since opening in November, The Westfield Rink has seen 15,000 people pass through its gates and take to the ice. This winter, The Westfield Rink gave everyone an opportunity to leave their devices behind and participate as a community in outdoor events all winter long.

Photos by Beth Hornstein



(above, left, l-r) Figure skaters Colleen Berg and Sherrie Natko, both from Westfield Coldwell Banker, showed off their stuff at Opening Day for The Westfield Rink.

(above, right) Ready to push the stone during lessons at The Westfield Rink.



(above) WHS Jazz musicians kept the mood swinging at Opening Day for The Westfield Rink.



(above) Making it official! Ribbon cutting ceremony on Opening Day at the Westfield Rink.



(above) Tamaques Elementary School students enjoy skate night at The Westfield Rink.

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WESTFIELD WINS AT 15TH ANNUAL JV ICE HOCKEY JAMBOREE

Submitted by Jill Garnhart

The future looks bright for Westfield hockey. Both JV ice hockey teams survived four games in round robin play to face off against each other in the championship game at the 15th Annual Anthony J. Grasso Boys JV Jamboree. The Jamboree took place on February 5, 2019, at the Woodbridge Community Center. The competition featured five local JV Hockey teams: Arthur L. Johnson (Clark) Crusaders, Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders, Summit Hilltoppers and two Westfield Blue Devils squads.

Each team played four 15 minute games, earning two points for a win, one point for a tie and no points for a loss. Westfield White won their first match, nicely beating Summit 2-0. In the Westfield Blue vs Westfield White game, the

Blue team came out the victors in a closely contested game that ended with Blue winning 1-0. Westfield Blue would go on to tie Summit 0-0, and score wins against ALJ and SPF. Westfield White would also post wins against ALJ and SPF, setting the stage for a match-up between first place Westfield Blue and second place Westfield White.

Both teams fought hard in the championship game, but it was Westfield Blue who skated away with the game and the first place trophies, winning 2-0 thanks to goal scorers Jack Sumas, assisted by Jeremy Thompson, and Shane Carlin, assisted by Andrew Principato. Westfield Blue Goalie Jack Ruckman won the Jamboree's MVP award for posting five consecutive shutouts.



(above, l-r) Westfield Blue team: Student Coach Trevor Tanella, Jeremy Thompson, Shane Carlin, Jack Ruckman, William Fischer, Joseph Brogan, Matthew Moran, Timothy O'Donnell, Coach Brendan Hickey, Andrew Principato, Paul Romeo, Jack Sumas, Mason Garnhart, Michael O'Donnell, Logan Calder, and (seated) Justin Hornstein. Picture by Beth Hornstein.

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INSPIRING BLACK HISTORY MONTH ASSEMBLY AT HIGH SCHOOL

There were inspiring words at Westfield High School on February 1, 2019, as students and staff heard from entrepreneur, speaker, author, scholar and community volunteer Dr. Randal Pinkett, who encouraged students to be trailblazers and to never “let anyone or anything tell you something’s not possible.”



(above) Dr. Randal Pinkett addresses students at Westfield High School during an inspiring assembly on February 1 commemorating Black History Month. “Never let anyone or anything tell you something’s not possible,” he told the gathering.

Photo by Westfield Public Schools

“Think about the first day you walked into this building,” he told the students gathered in the high school auditorium during an assembly commemorating Black History Month that was live streamed to other students in the school’s cafeteria and gymnasium. “Life is like a road. It has twists and turns, potholes and dead ends. At the end of the day, no two paths are the same. We are all, in our way, trailblazers.”

A Rhodes Scholar who holds five academic degrees, Pinkett spoke of black leaders who inspired him including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Coretta Scott King, Sojourner Truth, Nelson and Winnie Mandela, and President and First Lady Barack and Michelle Obama.

“They all had the mindset that they could be a trailblazer,” said Pinkett. “It’s the same mindset you see in very young children.” Little children live in a world that doesn’t discriminate nor separate dreams from reality, he said.

They give us a “lens into what we were like before we were influenced by the world,” Pinkett

told the students. “A voice lives inside of you. Don’t lose that voice that tells you that you can be a trailblazer.”

He called on the students to never allow their voices to be silenced by racism, sexism, anti-Semitism and other hateful speech and actions.

Pinkett was welcomed to Westfield High School by Lesley Cora, WHS educational media specialist and chair of the WHS Diversity Awareness Committee and by principal Dr. Derrick Nelson.

“This day is really important, not just to me or to our staff but to our entire school community,” said Dr. Nelson. “We get a chance to celebrate our cultures, our diversity. This is what makes a community.”

The WHS Choraleers, directed by music/vocal instructor John Brzozowski, sang a traditional African-American spiritual by American composer William Dawson and a song about Martin Luther King, Jr. by the Irish rock group U2.

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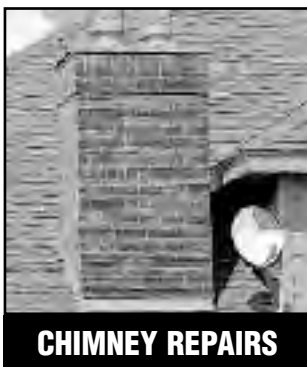
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(above) “Westfield Queen Anne,” by artist and architectural historian Harry Devlin. Entries for the Devlin preservation awards and student contest are due April 15.

PRESERVATION COMMISSION SEEKS ENTRIES FOR DEVLIN AWARDS AND STUDENT CONTEST

The Westfield Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) seeks entries for the Harry Devlin preservation awards honoring outstanding efforts in the restoration, expansion, and maintenance of older properties. This year, the HPC is also reintroducing awards for art and writing on a preservation topic open to any middle or senior high student.

Created in 1993 to encourage the use of established historic preservation standards, the Devlin awards are named for Harry Devlin, a prominent local artist and architectural historian. Any recent project visible to the public is eligible. Residential, commercial, professional and institutional buildings may be entered. Categories for nomination include:

- Addition or alteration sensitive to original architecture;
- Restoration or repair of original or existing improvement;
- Period-appropriate painting or residing;

- Adaptive reuse of a property in a manner sensitive to the original architecture and/or neighborhood;
- Persons, actions or events that promote preservation may also be considered.

The student art and creative writing contest seeks to foster an appreciation of historic preservation in teens and young adults. Middle and high school students are invited to submit a piece of creative writing or artwork in response to the prompt: “Describe or depict a favorite place in Westfield as it existed in another era. Include specific historic details that help evoke the time period.” Any story, poem, drawing or painting may be entered.

The deadline for both the preservation awards and student contest is Monday, April 15, 2019. Criteria and entry forms can be found on the town website at westfieldnj.gov/historicpreservation. For additional information, please contact hpc@westfieldnj.gov.

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Programs for Adults Check website for sign up info

3/1	1:30 pm	TGIF! The Post starring Streep & Hanks
3/2	2:00 pm	Electric Violinist Dani Bones & Chris Fynn
3/4	7:00 pm	Why Do Young People Run for Office!
3/7	7:00 pm	Indian Cooking w/Annaprat-Chama Gupta
3/8	1:30 pm	TGIF! Travel England through to Wales
3/9	2:00 pm	Hit the Road Band
3/11	7:00 pm	Mark Kilanski & Deb Sheolish-Irish music
3/15	1:30 pm	TGIF! From Mao to Mozart
3/16	2:00 pm	Ken Lehen presents Kingston Trio music
3/22	12:30-3:30 pm	Makers Day for Adults: Drop in during these hours to experiment with fun crafts
3/27	7:00 pm	Virginia Appari: Newborns & March of Dimes
3/28	1:00 pm	Hedy Lamarr-Bombshell-Documentary
3/29	1:30 pm	TGIF! Classic Movie Week: Brooklyn
3/30	2:00 pm	War in Westfield-Redcoats and Rebels

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS AND TEENS: CHECK WEBSITE FOR SIGN UP INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

3/1, 8, 15, 22, 19	10:00 am	Playgroup for Babies 0-21 mos
3/4, 18, 25	10:00 am	Yoga Storytime 2-5 years
3/12	6:30 pm	Evening LEGO Club 5+years
3/12, 19, 26	10:30 am	2's on Tuesday Storytime
3/12, 19, 26	1:00 pm	Crafternoon Storytime 3 1/2-5 yrs
3/14, 21, 28	10:30 am	3's on Thursday Storytime
3/14, 21, 28	7:30 pm	Tween & Teen Yoga 11-16 years
3/18	6:30 pm	Explore Coding 7-9 years
3/23	10:00-11 pm	Makers Day-Drop in! 4+ yrs
3/30	10:00 am	Paws to Read-for new readers



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WESTFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S APRIL FIRST WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON – APPRAISING FINE ART & ANTIQUES

As part of The Westfield Historical Society's First Wednesday Luncheon series, Donna Thompson Ray will be speaking on the topic of Appraising Fine Art & Antiques on April 3, 2019. The event will begin with check-in at 11:45 a.m. at the Echo Lake Country Club, located at 515 Springfield Avenue, Westfield.

Donna Thompson Ray is a history educator and fine art appraiser. A doctoral candidate in American history at Drew University, her scholarly work and appraisal practice includes

the study of African-American art, American art, photography, and nineteenth-century American visual culture. She is the owner of ATFA Appraisals in Westfield, New Jersey, and the immediate past president of the American Society of Appraisers' northern New Jersey chapter. Ms. Thompson Ray has been a visual art consultant for over twenty-five years and is a published author. Her talk, "Appraising Fine Art and Antiques," will review the role of an art appraiser in estate planning, home insurance, and charitable donations.

Those wishing to attend the luncheon may make a reservation by email to westfieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com; or, by calling 908-654-1794, before 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 29. Please advise if there are special dietary needs. The luncheon fee of \$35 (WHS members) or \$40 (non-members) includes a three-course meal, coffee/tea, and gratuity. The

luncheon fee should be paid in advance (check payable to Westfield Historical Society) by mailing to Westfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 613, Westfield, NJ 07091; or, online at westfieldhistoricalsociety.org/registration.

Payments should be received by Friday prior to the luncheon. Westfield Historical Society memberships will also be available at the luncheon.

The Westfield Historical Society celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2018. Since 1968, the 501(c)(3) non-profit Westfield Historical Society has worked to preserve, interpret and encourage interest in history, Westfield, and its residents through educational efforts and community outreach programs.

Echo Lake Country Club is at 515 Springfield Ave, Westfield, NJ. For Echo Lake County Club dress code information, check out the Guest Information at: echolakecc.org/club.



(above) Donna Thompson Ray will present a program on Appraising Fine Art & Antiques reviewing the role of an art appraiser in estate planning, home insurance, and charitable donations during the Westfield Historical Society's First Wednesday Luncheon to be held on April 3, 2019 at Echo Lake Country Club.

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WHS DREAM TEAM STUDENTS ATTENDED PEER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Submitted by Kerri Oligino, Parent Liaison, Westfield Municipal Alliance

The 31st Annual NJ Elks Peer Leadership Conference was held in Long Branch on February 1st through 3rd and hosted approximately 475 students from around the state. The Westfield Municipal Alliance sponsors student attendance annually.



(above) WHS Dream Team, 23 students representing grades 9-12, at the 31st Annual NJ Elks Peer Leadership Conference in Long Branch on February 1-3, 2019.

2019 is the 11th consecutive year that student members of the Westfield High School (WHS) Dream Team, with additional financial support from parents, attended the NJ Elks Peer Leadership Conference. The WHS Dream Team is a school club that encourages positive decision-making and healthy choices; their message to students is, "Confidence, Choices, Challenges, Changes".

Representing grades (9-12), twenty-three Dream Team students applied to attend the three day conference this year. Students were chaperoned by Lauren Hauser and Sue Kolesar, educators at WHS and Dream Team co-advisors, as well as Louise DeDea and Kerri Oligino from the Westfield Municipal Alliance. The WHS Dream Team co-advisor and physical education teacher, Lauren Hauser, explained that the annual peer leadership conference is a tremendous opportunity for students to learn and hear others' stories and bring their messages back to Westfield. "We are thrilled with the interest from our students this year," Hauser said.

General sessions at the conference included DEA agent Nicholas Kolen with an update on the Opioid Epidemic. Speakers from Breaking The Cycle emphasized the importance of honest communication to resolve conflicts and explained to students that angry feelings, words, or texts are the root cause of much of the violence that makes the headlines. Suicide prevention advocates Ann Marie & Pat D'Aliso spoke about their journey, since the loss of their 16 year old son, Pat Jr, to suicide in 2004.

Keynote speakers such as Scott Backovich and Sarah Wells presented their personal stories with heartfelt and challenging messages. Scott encouraged students to "Be A Catalyst" with a smaller group breakout session focused on "every student has the power to influence their world". Sarah spoke to "The Power of Believing In Yourself" with a smaller group breakout session focused on "perseverance and overcoming life's hurdles". The students also heard from

Hawthorne High School assistant principal Craig Jandoli, who spoke of his own difficult upbringing and the importance of a positive attitude. Craig's message to students is to "Throw Away the Fear and Step Up" and his smaller group workshop focused on "attitude is a choice", and "to not be afraid of all the judgement around us", and challenged students to "look beyond themselves" and "recognize the needs of others".

The leadership conference inspires participants to return to their communities and take the next steps to transform lives around them. Speaking to the value of the conference, WHS Dream Team co-advisor and health educator, Sue Kolesar explained that students crave and need the inspiration, connection to others, and self-reflection that attending the leadership conference affords them. "I wish every student could be impacted by this life-changing experience because drug use, anxiety, and bullying among students could be reduced," said Kolesar.

The Westfield Municipal Alliance supports prevention education and substance abuse awareness programs. Details will be forthcoming on future Alliance and Dream Team programs including The Girl Thing / Guy Thing and the 8th grade / 5th grade outreach events this Spring. A local parent and community liaison for the Alliance, Kerri Oligino, explained that programs which promote positive behavior, strengthen leadership skills, and encourage peer-mentoring are the key components to substance abuse prevention. "Young leaders with positive values, social and emotional intelligence, and confidence in their identity have developmental assets that are incompatible with substance abuse," said Oligino.

For more information please visit westfieldnj.gov/wma, or contact Louise DeDea, Westfield Municipal Alliance Coordinator at westfieldalliance@gmail.com or Kerri Oligino, community liaison at westfieldalliance2@gmail.com.

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WESTFIELD'S FLORIAN SCHANTZ JAZZ COMBO PERFORMS AT CRANFORD COMMUNITY CENTER

Laissez les bons temps rouler! That's Cajun French for "let the good times roll," and the Florian Schantz Jazz Combo are bringing the good times to the Cranford Community Center with Music of Mardi Gras on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Fans of hot jazz, Dixieland and blazing horns shouldn't miss this spectacular sextet as they return to Cranford for the first time since they packed the house in January 2018. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Cranford Public Library.

Westfield native Florian Schantz started playing trumpet at age 6, and started the Florian Schantz Jazz Combo in 2012 when he was just 9 years old. By the time he turned 15, he had played 300 gigs in the United States and Europe. His multi-instrumental talents range to fifteen instruments, including the Flügelhorn, trumpet, cornet, valve trombone, and euphonium, and he maintains a collection of antique and unique horns. The Florian Schantz Jazz Combo is made up of professional musicians and participate in many parades and major civic events every year. They also provide musical entertainment in retirement homes throughout New Jersey. For more information, please visit vfsjazz.com.

No registration is required for this free event. The Cranford Community Center is located at

220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016, and is accessible to all. For more information about the Cranford Public Library, visit cranfordlibrary.org.



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(above) Finalist Eric Yoon poses with his finalist certificate. Finalists were celebrated by their families and other community members on January 23, 2019.

SUNDAY MORNING SINGLES DISCUSSION GROUP IN ITS' 40TH

The Sunday Morning Singles Discussion Group meets for lively discussion every Sunday from 9 - 10 a.m. at The First Baptist Church of Westfield (lower level), 170 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ. This nondenominational group enjoy a Continental breakfast followed by engaging conversation. \$2 donation. No reservations required. For more information call 908-686-0563.

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WESTFIELD STUDENT FINALISTS RECOGNIZED FOR 6TH ANNUAL PALOOZA CONTEST ENTRIES

Submitted by Kerri Oligino

The 6th Annual Palooza Contest finalists were recognized on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at the student center at Westfield High School. Westfield Public School students and Holy Trinity School students in grades 1-12 created posters, poetry, and PSA's themed "Westfield, We Have Better Things To Do: Healthy Choices, Everyday Choices," for substance abuse prevention.

The night of recognition was hosted by the students from the Westfield High School Dream Team and sponsored by the Westfield Municipal Alliance. Awards to finalists were generously donated by the Albert Anthony Kayal Foundation (AAKF). The Westfield High School Dream Team generously matched each award and donated to two local organizations, Imagine and the Westfield Rescue Squad.

The Palooza Contest is announced annually in October during National Red Ribbon Week and

entries are typically due before the end of November. Each year, in January, the finalists are celebrated by their families and other community members. Finalists' posters, poetry, and the PSA are posted on the Westfield Municipal Alliance facebook page, facebook.com/westfieldalliance.

The message of the Westfield HS Dream Team to students is Confidence, Choices, Challenges, Changes. The Dream Team promotes positive decision-making and healthy choices and creates programs that provide alternatives to underage drinking and drug use. The mission of the Westfield HS Dream Team complements the mission of the Westfield Municipal Alliance to provide substance abuse prevention education in Westfield schools and to the broader Westfield community.

For more information please visit westfieldnj.gov/wma, or contact Louise DeDea at westfieldalliance@gmail.com or Kerri Oligino at westfieldalliance2@gmail.com.



(about) Student finalists of the 6th Annual Palooza Contest pose with their certificates. The theme of this year's contest was "Westfield, We Have Better Things To Do: Healthy Choices, Everyday Choices," for substance abuse prevention.

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THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF WESTFIELD MAKES LUNCHES FOR THOSE IN NEED

Members of The Woman's Club of Westfield are busy making lunches to be distributed by the Bridges Organization to hungry adults and children. The lunches are shared at meeting points under bridges and at shelters in Irvington, Newark, and New York City.

A group of WCW ladies along with volunteer friends meet the first Friday of every month at the Congregational Church in Westfield to make 200 bagged lunches each time that they

meet. Each lunch contains a ham and cheese sandwich, juice drink, fruit cup, snack and dessert. This project has been supported for the last fifteen years with the help and charity of those who have given so freely of themselves.

New volunteers are welcomed warmly.

For more information please write The Woman's Club of Westfield, P.O. Box 1157, Mountainside, NJ 07092.



(above, l-r) Cindy Neivert, Mary Ann Sepe, Sandy Shamir and Phyllis Manno.

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WOMAN'S CLUB OF WESTFIELD MEET FDR

Submitted by Anne Magnotti

Guest Neil Hartley, as Franklin Delano Roosevelt, was welcomed recently by The Woman's Club of Westfield during a general meeting of the club. Neil is a busy actor, director, spokesman and teacher and was able to bring FDR to life for the ladies. Our thirty-second President was an American, lawyer, politician and businessman who served as an United States

Congressman for two terms before going on to become Our President for four terms. He led the country through The Great Depression and World War II.

FDR was stricken with polio in 1921, confined to a wheelchair but was able to overcome and lived by the words "The Only Thing we have to fear is fear itself."

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(above) Woman's Club of Westfield members Julie Nardone, Pat D'Angelo, Ruth Positan, and Grace Ann Meyn with Speaker Neil Hartley.

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THE PTC SCHOLARSHIP FUND REACHES \$12,000

Submitted by Jeannie Arida

Our thanks to those individuals and families who have generously supported the 2019 Parent-Teacher Council (PTC) Scholarship Fund. To date, we have raised over \$12,000 for the Fund. For those who have not yet contributed, there is still time, and we need your support!

Established in 1957, The PTC Scholarship Fund benefits graduating Westfield High School seniors who demonstrate financial need, academic perseverance and community involvement. The 8-12 scholarships awarded annually—which last year totaled almost \$20,000—truly do make a difference in the lives of the graduating seniors. Each year, the PTC Scholarship Fund Committee must make tough decisions when selecting recipients, and due to limited funds, must unfortunately turn away

several worthy applicants.

The PTC Scholarship Fund relies solely on the generosity of our community for donations. Please help us meet the needs of our students in the Class of 2019 by supporting this Fund. Your donation, no matter what the size, will be greatly appreciated and will help us to move closer to our goal of providing \$20,000 in awards again this year.

Please make your donation payable to "Westfield PTC Scholarship" and mail by April 1, 2019 to:

Westfield PTC, 302 Elm Street, Westfield, NJ 07090 Attention: Donna Kenney.

Thank you, in advance, for your support from the 2019 Westfield Parent-Teacher Scholarship Fund Committee.

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WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS ICE HOCKEY VARSITY AND JV TEAMS HELP AT FOOD BANK

Westfield High School Girls Ice Hockey Varsity and JV teams recently visited Community Food Bank Of New Jersey where they helped assemble food into 924 bags.



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"Bloody Callan" at Gillette

"Round the House" at Flemington

3 Seatings: 3:30, 5:30 & 7:30 pm

Tuesday, March 12

"Bloody Callan" at Bridgewater

"Celtic Rebels Band" at Gillette

"Courtney Colletti" at Flemington

2 Seatings: 5:45 & 7:15 pm

Thursday, March 14

"Celtic Rebels Band" at Bridgewater

"Round the House" at Gillette

"The Snakes" at Flemington

2 Seatings: 5:45 & 7:15 pm



ST. PATRICK'S DAY



Sunday, March 17

"Hooley Shooters" at Bridgewater

"Courtney Colletti" at Gillette

"Bloody Callan" at Flemington

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TAMAQUES 5TH GRADERS LEARN HOW TO PROTECT WATERSHEDS

A watershed is an area of land that drains into a body of water such as a river, lake, stream, or bay. There are 5 water regions in New Jersey and 20 watershed management areas. Tamaques 5th graders recently heard from “ambassadors” from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection about the importance of watershed stewardship and what can be done to protect the state’s water regions.

Four members of the AmeriCorps New Jersey



(above) Tamaques 5th grader Lance Alexander holds a bookmark he is creating to follow the journey of a simple drop of water during a special visit from NJDEP “watershed ambassadors.”

Watershed Ambassadors Program visited Tamaques School on January 4, 2019. Fifth graders rotated between hands-on presentations that included taking a close look at how macroinvertebrates help to determine the health of a body of water, following the journey a simple drop of water makes, acting out the varied ways water can be polluted, and becoming Clean Water Rangers as they examined ways they can help to protect New Jersey’s watersheds.

“In social studies, our curriculum looks at global connections. We analyze case studies in different continents, using the five themes of geography. The idea of water as a limited global resource is seen in most, if not all, of the case studies,” says Tamaques 5th grade teacher Victor Alfonso who coordinated this year’s watershed ambassador visit. “Concepts like a watershed, freshwater, ecosystems, food chains, food webs, point and non-point pollution and resource competition are explored.”

Alfonso says these concepts also apply to the fifth grade science curriculum and that there are other connections to be made as well.



(above) During a special visit from NJDEP “watershed ambassadors,” Oliver Dobek (left) and Patrick Greeley examine macroinvertebrates, small organisms found at the bottom of streams that can help determine the health of the water.

“Our Sandy Hook field trip allows us to case study the watershed and ecosystem there,” he says. “And we can find connections with our community garden watershed in front of our school. We learn how important conservation, preservation, and sustainable development are to our community and world.”

“After the watershed presentations, I learned that almost every tiny garbage or waste that goes into the watershed will affect the environment in that area,” says 10-year-old Patrick Greeley. “I learned that it’s up to all of us to do our part, even if it is just one little piece of garbage. Pollution can and must be stopped!”

Ten-year-old Hope Walsh says she found the presentation very beneficial, too. “It taught me that things in everyday life are hurting the watershed including littering, car oil dripping in parking lots, and factories. I now try to not do things that hurt the watershed, including not littering.”

Alfonso says he appreciates the support and collaboration of all who helped to “provide this unique learning experience for the students.”



(above) Tamaques 5th grader Leah Abrams becomes a Clean Water Ranger as she and her classmates receive a visit from the NJDEP “watershed ambassadors” on January 4.

Photos by Westfield Public Schools

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5 WESTFIELD FENCERS SELECTED TO COMPETE IN THE DISTRICT 2 FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS

On January 26, 2019, 5 fencers were chosen to represent Westfield High School's Fencing Club, which trains out of Advanced Fencing and Fitness Academy (AFFA) in Garwood, New Jersey, for the Independent portion of the

NJSIAA District 2 Championships. The District 2 Championships were held at North Hunderton High School. Freshman new comer, Sean Crann placed second in the Epee event pool.



(above) The fencers who competed: Jasper Lemberg, Senior- Epee; Emily O'Connell, Junior – Sabre; Mark Falletta, Junior – Epee; Alex Caramagno, Sophomore- Sabre; and Sean Crann, Freshman – Epee.



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STUDENTS ACCEPTED TO SELECTIVE REGIONAL BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Submitted by Mary Ann McGann

Twelve student musicians from Edison and Roosevelt Intermediate Schools auditioned and gained acceptance to the highly selective Central Jersey Music Educators Association (CJMEA) Intermediate Region II Band and Orchestra.

Selected to perform on March 3 with the CJMEA Region II Band are Edison 8th graders Eric Buecklers (Bass Clarinet), Will Crall (Tuba), Yusuf Lee (Trumpet) and 7th graders Nolan Daily (Trumpet) and Charlie Hu (Oboe).

Selected for the CJMEA Region II Orchestra are Edison 8th graders Kevin Chen (Viola), Youhao Steve Wang (Violin), Felix Yu (Violin) and 6th grader Claire Qin (Violin) and Roosevelt 8th graders Julian Hamilton (Viola) and Tristan Wroe (Cello).

Roosevelt 8th grader Liam Maurillo was accepted to the CJMEA Wind Ensemble on Percussion.



SWEET CHARITY TO BE PRESENTED BY WHS MARCH 14 - 16

The Westfield High School Theatre Department is proud to present Sweet Charity, book by Neil Simon, score by Cy Coleman, lyrics by Dorothy Fields, and original choreography by Bob Fosse, on Thursday, March 14, Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16, 2019. All performances are at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$14 and can be purchased at whstd.booktix.com. All seating reserved.

Inspired by Federico Fellini's "Nights of Cabiria," Sweet Charity explores the turbulent love life of Charity Hope Valentine, a hopelessly romantic but comically unfortunate dance hall hostess in 1960s New York City. Charity is determined to change her life for the better after being unceremoniously dumped by her latest boyfriend Charlie. Singing, dancing, laughing and crying her way through one misadventure after the next, Charity joins a host of other vibrant characters as she embarks on a wild ride and quest for love. In the end, Charity realizes, as many of us do as well, that the real answer to happiness lies somewhere inside her hope and her heart.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

Four Westfield High School seniors have advanced as finalists in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program having met academic and other standards to become eligible for scholarships.

The program honors students who show

exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. Pictured here in September with principal Dr. Derrick Nelson are (l-r) Madeline Reynders, Zachary Youssef, Edward Xing, and Austin Chen who, at that time, had earned semi-finalist ranking.



Photo by Westfield Public Schools

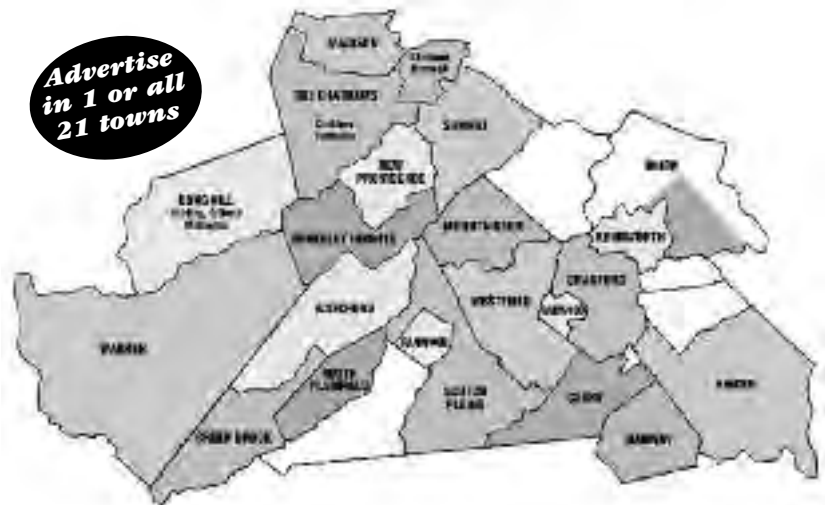
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EDISON 8TH GRADERS RECEIVE VISIT FROM CHILDREN OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Eighth graders at Edison Intermediate School recently heard compelling, and sometimes emotional, accounts from a group comprised of children of Holocaust survivors who shared facts, photographs and a common message that hate cannot be tolerated anywhere.

"The Holocaust was the systematic murder of 6-million Jews and other populations," said Lydia Fogelman to a class of 8th graders. "We are here now to tell you the stories of our mothers and how they survived."

Fogelman was one of six members of the Second/Third Generation Holocaust Survivors Group to visit Edison to share their family stories of loss and survival. The group was co-founded by Claire Bornstein, Rita Geller and Faye Bodenstein at Congregation Beth Israel in Scotch Plains in 2015 and includes members from throughout the area.

"The group's objectives are to share stories, provide support, to learn even more about our history and, most importantly, to create opportunities for Holocaust education in our schools, synagogues and community," says Barbara Simon, whose maternal and paternal grandparents, an uncle, and three aunts were among her family members to die during the Holocaust.

Simon says the visit to Edison was the group's first experience speaking in a school. "We hope to continue," she says. "Our goal is to instill our 'be an Upstander, not a bystander' philosophy. We hope the students understood the message

that we cannot change the past but they should participate in the future. We wish to instill confidence in the kids to not only be able to recognize hate, but to also feel empowered to realize that staying quiet should not be an option. Hate is not okay."

Joining Simon and Fogelman in speaking to three 8th grade language arts classes were Claire Bornstein, Rita Geller, Debra Feldman and Gila Glassel.

"Edison's 8th grade language arts classes are currently involved in a social justice book club unit. Students are reading a number of books that deal with the themes of prejudice, righteous individuals, bravery, and morality," says principal Matthew Bolton. "We are incredibly fortunate to have members of the Second/Third Generation Holocaust Survivors Group share their compelling stories of sadness and survival with our students."

Bolton says Edison students will also hear from a Holocaust survivor who will visit the school next month.

"The teaching of the Holocaust and genocide has been part of the K-12 curriculum in Westfield Public Schools for more than two decades, with a multidisciplinary, age-appropriate approach at all grade levels," says Superintendent Dr. Margaret Dolan. "This visit by members of Congregation Beth Israel and other presentations on the Holocaust provide important real life context to classroom experiences at our intermediate and high schools."



(above) Gila Glassel shows photographs of her grandparents who were killed during the Holocaust, as well as her mother who survived the Holocaust. Glassel was among 6 children of Holocaust survivors to visit Edison Intermediate School on February 1 to speak to 8th grade language arts classes.



(above, l-r) Members of the Second/Third Generation Holocaust Survivors Group of Congregation Beth Israel in Scotch Plains visited Edison Intermediate School on February 1 to share facts, photographs and a common message that hate cannot be tolerated anywhere. Edison principal Dr. Matthew Bolton is pictured with Claire Bornstein, Lydia Fogelman, Barbara Simon, Rita Geller, Debra Feldman, and Gila Glassel.

Photos by Westfield Public Schools

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